**Public Golf Forum: Biologicals**

A half-day session on biological controls, led by Dr. Eric Nelson, will highlight PGF's second day.

**Barley Straw in Your Pond?**

Yes. A sure-fire folk remedy that works wonders on your pond algae.

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**Toro, G&H ready for day in court**

*By M. Levans*

BLOOMINGTON, Minn./LOS ANGELES — The battle between the Toro Company and Grizzle & Hunter Plastic Inc. — which has raged since December 1995 — will be tried by a jury on September 23.

Through the trial, Toro is seeking an injunction against Grizzle & Hunter that would permanently bar the manufacturer from producing its Bear Irrigation replacement sprinkler products.

In December 1995, Toro accused Grizzle & Hunter's top executives of stealing trade secrets related to the sprinkler conversion assembly — the guts of the sprinkler head. Grizzle & Hunter, a company spearheaded by Glendale Grizzle, an ex-Toro employee of 28 years, has been marketing a universal conversion assembly that can replace worn out Toro and Rain Bird sprinkler assemblies.

Continued on page 47

**Whitbread takes lead**

*By Peter Blais*

WARWICKSHIRE, England — This fall the European golfing community will turn its eyes to Whitbread Hotel Co.'s Marriott Forest of Arden Hotel & Country Club, site of the final European Tour stop before this September's much-anticipated Ryder Cup.

"We're hoping a number of the European team players will play in the One 2 One British Masters," said Whitbread Marketing Director Janet Matthews.

While the golfing public's attention will be fixed on the Warwickshire facility this September, the golf industry's gaze has turned with increasing...Continued on page 43

**Casper to keynote Public Golf Forum**

*By M. Leslie*

OAK BROOK HILLS, Ill. — Hall of Fame golfer Billy Casper, who has followed his playing career by operating golf course design and management companies, will keynote the 1997 Public Golf Forum here on Oct. 27.

The only national conference and show targeted to the owners, managers, developers and superintendents of public-access golf facilities, the Golf Course News-sponsored Public Golf Forum will be held Oct. 27-28 at Oak Brook Hills.

Continued on page 50

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**Toro dives headlong into training**

**Milorganite to donate to turfgrass research**

**Golf Ventures arrives in Jupiter**
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. Penneagle... 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.
Where golfers play the majority of their rounds

1986 | 1996
---|---
Public | 75.6% | 77.4%
Private | 20.8% | 20.3%
Other | 3.6% | 4.3%

Golf course openings by region: 1996

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Opening Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W. NORTH CENTRAL</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. NORTH CENTRAL</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH ATLANTIC</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOUNTAIN</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>MID ATLANTIC</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEW ENGLAND</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. SOUTH CENTRAL</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. SOUTH CENTRAL</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PACIFIC</td>
<td>2%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

PUBLIC GOLF GROWING

The two top graphs (provided by the National Golf Foundation) show that the percentage of rounds played by U.S. golfers at public courses grew from 75.6 percent in 1986 to 77.4 percent in 1996. Eleven years ago, according to the NGF, private golfers made up more than 30 percent of the golfer population. By 1996, their percentage had dropped to just above 18 percent as public golf continued to gain ground into what was once mostly a private game. The total number of private golfers grew a modest 9.4 percent during that 11-year period, while public golfers grew by more than 27 percent. The bottom graph shows that nearly half the 1996 total course openings occurred in either the South Atlantic (24 percent) or East North Central (23 percent) regions of the country.


BRIEFS

ROBINSONVILLE, Miss. — Grand Casino Tunica has hired Hale Irwin to design an 18-hole championship golf course here. The $18 million course is scheduled to open in spring 1998. Grand Tunica is the closest of the nine Tunica County casinos to Memphis, Tenn. The 7,000-yard course will be a daily-fee facility and is located directly across the levee from the 340,000-square-foot casino complex on U.S. Highway 61.

LONGMONT, Colo. — The public, 18-hole Haystack Mountain Golf Course recently unveiled the fruits of a renovation. The facility’s driving range has been doubled and reworked to include target greens and it is now lighted. A new ninth hole also opened last month. The clubhouse was also completely remodeled with a fresh food deli and full-service bar.

MOBILE, Ala. — City officials are looking into building a new nine-hole course as part of a proposed recreation site near the Mobile Infirmary Medical Center overlooking Three Mile Creek. If it does get built, the new course would be sited not far from what used to be the Oak Hills Country Club, a public course that later became a private country club and existed from 1933 to 1949.

Watervision® UL Listed Controls:

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Pumping System:

- All units custom-built to your watering schedule requirements, at costs comparable to others' off-the-shelf models.
- The only manufacturer to provide full dynamic testing of every unit at the factory, with certification of performance.
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- The most durable, best-looking finish in the industry — baked epoxy undercoat plus baked UV resistant polyurethane top coat.
- One-piece, structurally engineered, seam-less, rust-prone welds, sharp edges and debris-collecting surface pockets.
Nebraska state park course ready for play after four-year journey

PONCA, Neb. — It took four-plus years, tens of thousands of hours of volunteer labor, and individual contributions totaling $461,000, but the nine-hole Highland Oaks Golf Course in Ponca State Park in northeast Nebraska is finally complete.

The course, built at no cost to taxpayers, is located on a leased 70-acre site in Ponca State Park two miles north of town and has a three-story, cathedral-like, 25,000-square-foot clubhouse. The course opened for play two years ago, but the clubhouse was just finished earlier this summer and the facility was recognized with a visit from Nebraska Governor Ben Nelson. It is the second course in Nebraska to be built on state park land. The other is Legend Buttes, located between Crawford and Fort Robinson State Historical Park.

Highland Oaks was a community project from the beginning. Volunteers helped install 17 miles of a double-row, underground irrigation system and built a 1.5-acre dam and lake for a rural water system to serve the course and the homes springing up between it and town. Volunteers also seeded the course, tilled the greens, built a 30-by-150-foot storage and utility building, built a septic tank system and even designed the clubhouse.

Golf course builder Marty Johnson of South Sioux City, Neb., helped design and construct fairways, greens and tees. The course is set amidst the rolling hills and old stands of oak and ash trees at Ponca State Park and offers panoramic views of the Missouri River.

Evergreen takes over management of Missouri muni

BLUE SPRINGS, Mo. — Evergreen Alliance Golf Limited of Irving, Texas, is the new management company for the under-construction Adams Pointe Golf Club — at least until October.

According to an agreement with the city, Evergreen Alliance will have oversight of the final construction phase of the course, including the final seeding and maintenance of the course, up until Oct. 1. A permanent management firm will be announced at that time and the city has expressed that it hopes Evergreen, which manages courses such as the Iron Horse in Overland Park, would stay on for three years.

The course is expected to be open for play sometime this month, with the clubhouse opening in September.
Tenn. state parks to pay $10,000 for wetlands violation

HENDERSON, Tenn. — The state of Tennessee will pay a $10,000 fine and return more than 100 acres of swamp to nature as part of a proposed settlement for illegally destroying wetlands during the construction of a Jack Nicklaus-designed course at Chickasaw State Park in Chester County, about 75 miles east of Memphis.

The settlement was issued in an administrative complaint and consent agreement from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and agreed to by Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Commissioner Milton Hamilton. The deal is expected to help resolve months of turmoil over the state of Tennessee's efforts to build the Nicklaus course in Chickasaw State Park, one of four Jack Nicklaus courses the state plans to build at state parks across the state.

According to the EPA and other agencies, Golf Services Group, a Houston-based management and development group contracted by the state, cleared and filled 14.21 acres of wetlands without a federal Clean Water Act permit. State officials have said the damage resulted from an oversight.

Smokey Mtns. home to new golf course

GREENEVILLE, Tenn. — The new 18-hole River Trace Golf Course in Greeneville has risen in the shadows of the Smoky Mountains on land that once held the nine-hole Nolichuckey Golf Course.

Four original holes from the old Nolichuckey layout, with some modifications, have been joined by 14 new holes to make the new 18-hole, daily-fee facility.

The new holes at the 6,085-yard layout were designed by an associate of the Larry Nelson group. Construction was done by Dave Stewart of Graysburg Hills in Chuckey.

AGC moves to Virginia Beach

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — American Golf Corp. is moving its northeast regional headquarters from Maumee, Ohio, to Virginia Beach.

"One of the prime reasons we're doing this is the growth cooperative in golf the various municipalities are projecting," Mark Tansey, American Golf's regional marketing and sales director, told The Virginian-Pilot. "We've heard about it, studied it, and we think we're going to pull it off. We want to be part of it."

American Golf's move comes at a time when the Virginia Beach area is buzzing with golf news. Local officials have said they would like to see the area become a top-notch golf and resort destination and would like to see more high-end golf courses built.

A group of angry citizens in Virginia Beach has also been pushing for that city to privatize its municipal courses. American Golf Corp. manages four courses in Virginia.

Minn. layout a family affair

BRAINERD, Minn. — The new nine-hole Crosslake Golf Course is a family venture. Jack Stone, owner of the Crosslake Golf facility which already had an executive course, financed the building of the nine-hole regulation layout. His son Mike designed the course and managed construction. Crosslake opened for play recently. The Stones plan to add three more holes to Crosslake's executive course next year.
OKLAHOMA CITY — The new Traditions Golf Club is being built on the idea that practice makes perfect.

The 149-acre complex, which is scheduled to open Nov. 1, will feature:

• A 4,500-yard, par-60, 18-hole course with six par-4s and 12 par-3s. The par-4s average 350 yards, the par-3s average 180 yards.
• A nine-hole "wee course" with shots ranging from 20 to 60 yards.
• A 250-acre driving range that is 340 yards long and 250 yards wide with a three-tiered tee area.
• Four massive putting greens totaling two acres, an idea patterned after the putting course at St. Andrews in Scotland.
• A 4,800-square-foot club-house where golfers can have their swing analyzed, browse golf books, take clinics on rules and etiquette, be fitted for golf clubs, have their clubs repaired, and track their progress in a database.
• A residential district for 107 homes.

John Rooney is chief executive officer of Traditions. Rooney, a regents professor emeritus of geography at Oklahoma State, has been a pioneer in the geographic analysis of sport and has authored several books on the subject. The Traditions was designed by Ray Hearn and Jerry Matthews.

KINGFISHER, Okla. — A nine-hole addition to the Kingfisher Golf Course is expected to open by late fall. The new layout was designed by Mike Gogel, a design associate for Tripp Davis and Associates, a Norman, Okla.-based firm.

The nine-hole addition was built on a former wheat field. Bulldozers and graders moved more than 60,000 yards of dirt around the formerly flat 781-acre site, creating gentle slopes and contours. The new nine sits directly south of the Kingfisher's existing nine-hole course, which was built in the mid-1960s east of town on Highway 55. The city purchased the land for the addition several years ago, when it became apparent the town had outgrown the present facility.

A private group, the Kingfisher Golf Association, borrowed $300,000 to pay for most of the construction costs. City workers and volunteers provided labor for the addition, including installing a computerized watering system that uses an on-site irrigation pond.

BOCA RATON, Fla. — A tree service employee was accidentally killed earlier this summer on the grounds of the Camino Del Mar Country Club in west Boca Raton while operating a large wood chipping machine.

The man was working on the 17th hole when he was pulled into the wood chipping machine and killed instantly.

Police told The News of Boca Raton that the 53-year-old man, who was an employee of Twin Tree Service of Parkland, Fla., was feeding palm fronds into an approximately 8-foot-wide machine and was working alone at the time of the accident.

A foreman for the Twin Tree Service told police he was part of a crew of three men working in the area. Police said the victim may have been pulled into the machine when he was feeding leaves or dislodging debris.
Dispute may split Houston course into two nine-hole tracks

HOUSTON — A dispute between a concessionaire and the city of Bellaire may split the municipal 18-hole Houston course into two nine-hole layouts. One would be overseen by Bellaire and its selected operator and the other by the city of West University Place.

John Pape, city manager for Bellaire, told the Houston Chronicle, "Our portion can be effectively utilized as a nine-hole course. We are prepared to operate it that way."

The potential split was prompted by a lawsuit filed earlier this summer against Bellaire by Houston Hills Corp., the company that manages the course for both Bellaire and West University Place. It accuses the city of breaking its contract and civil fraud. But Bellaire officials say the company has not followed through on certain aspects of its agreement.

Shell buys Corpus Christi facility

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas — A group of investors headed by Shell Land Management Co. Inc. have bought the Kings Crossing Golf & Country Club as well as the surrounding residential community.

Shell Land, which has several other properties on the Southside and along Saratoga Boulevard, bought the approximately 865-acre far-Southside golf course community for an undisclosed price.

The country club will still be called Kings Crossing Golf & Country Club, according to Ben B. Wallace, president of Shell Land, and will retain all 85 of its current employees.

ClubCorp could relinquish Philly track operations

PHILADELPHIA — Golf Corp., the Dallas-based management group, is looking to get out of the Philadelphia’s municipal golf market.

According to the Philadelphia Inquirer, ClubCorp subsidiary Golf Corp., which took over Philadelphia’s six municipal courses nine years ago, is looking to sell the 14 years left on its contract to the Meadowbrook Golf Management Co. of Chicago for a reported $5.5 million.

Golf Corp. says it wants out of the deal so it can leave the daily-fee golfing business to concentrate on its resorts and private clubs scattered around the country.

The deal needs the approval of the Philadelphia Park Commission, whose members have been negotiating with the two companies behind closed doors for months.

State approves 27-hole facility in suburban Boston

QUINCY, Mass. — A group of developers have gotten the go-ahead to build a public golf facility on two contiguous landfills in the neighboring towns of Quincy and Milton located just south of Boston.

The developers, Quarry Hills Associates of Quincy, recently got approval on their environmental impact report from the state's environmental affairs office.

Part of the facility, to be called Quarry Hills, will be supported by fill from the adjoining Featherbed Artery roadway and tunnel project currently under construction in downtown Boston.

Quarry Hills will include a 27-hole golf course, 25,000-square-foot clubhouse, driving range, softball and soccer fields, baseball courts and other recreational amenities. Construction is expected to start later this summer with the entire project scheduled for completion in five years.

"When I need a reliable straight shot, I reach for my Putter."

"There's nothing like making a great putt. How the ball takes a smooth roll on a closely trimmed green. Over a texture so fine, nothing's going to get in the way of my shot."

"That's why I reach for Putter from Jacklin. A dark, bluish-green Creeping Bentgrass, Putter has a uniform leaf texture, improved resistance to many patch diseases and is aggressive against Poa annua encroachment. And its dwarf-growth habit and high-shoot density puts me in a better position to call those tough shots."
Phoenix officials try to save historic Biltmore golf course

PHOENIX — The ongoing saga of the Adobe Golf Course at the Arizona Biltmore hotel, one of the oldest courses in Arizona, could be heading for the courtroom. The City Council recently voted to have the Planning Commission come up with a golf course "overlay" that would protect the course from being developed into 112 homes, which is the plan of Kabuto Arizona Properties, the owner of the land. The Planning Commission is expected to bring a plan back to the council by October. Mayor Skip Rimsza has vowed to take the matter to court if necessary, even though Kabuto owns the land the course is on and says it has the right to do anything it wants with it as of the year 2000. Supporters of the golf course, including Rimsza, are hoping a settlement can be worked out that will keep it intact.

Executive track set to open in Calif.

HAYWARD, Calif. — The Hayward Area Recreation and Park District is preparing to build and operate a new, smaller, nine-hole course on the site of the former Hayward Golf Course. The new nine-hole layout, which will be set on 38 acres, was designed by Gary Bye of David Rainville Golf Course Architects. The former Hayward Golf Course was closed in 1986, which left the area with only one course. Bye's design calls for a 1,750-yard, executive-style layout with six par-3s ranging in length from 95 to 175 yards and three par-4s at 275, 335 and 350 yards. Rough grading was expected to be under way by this month.

Judge halts work on Eastwood layout

CARMEL, Calif. — A Superior Court judge has ordered construction halted on the Canada Woods golf course and subdivision being developed by actor Clint Eastwood east of Carmel. The Sierra Club sued to stop the project, saying it will harm some of the last stands of coastal prairie grassland and Monterey pine savannah. Eastwood plans to build a 1,006-acre development on a ridgetop east of Carmel with an 18-hole course, 34 homes, an equestrian center and employee housing. Grading for the course started earlier this summer. The suit is expected to go to trial later this summer.

Consultant to study Ventura's future

VENTURA, Calif. — The city of Ventura has hired a consultant to help determine whether it needs more public courses. The city has asked the consultant to determine if it needs to expand an existing golf course, build a new course, or do a better job of marketing existing courses. Zeke Avila and Sons, which runs the 18-hole public Olivas Park Golf Course in Ventura, wants to build a new course, but city officials are not convinced it is needed. The city's Golf Course Master Plan is expected to take six to 12 months to complete.

Norman to design in Myrtle Beach

LITCHFIELD BEACH, S.C. — Greg Norman will get a chance to make his mark on the Grand Strand. Norman's design company has been selected to design a private, 18-hole layout at Litchfield Beach south of Myrtle Beach to be called The Reserve Golf Club. The private, non-equity club will be built on roughly 180 acres in Willbrook Plantation. It will be Norman's first project in the Carolinas. Groundwork is scheduled to begin this fall with a target opening date of fall 1998. The facility will include a clubhouse.

Introducing The New Aercore® 800

The new walk-behind Aercore 800 delivers the same advantages found in the tractor-mounted Aercore 1000 and 1500. Specifically, the ability to deliver high productivity without sacrificing hole quality, durability, or ease of service.

Powered by an 18-hp Kohler engine, the 800 covers a lot of ground at a coring swath of 31.5-inches. Four gears allow you to match productivity and speed.

Like the 1000 and 1500, the "flexi-link" mounting design of the 800 helps ensure the tines stay perpendicular to the ground longer for a cleaner hole. In addition, belt drive instead of chains makes it quieter, more forgiving, and easier to maintain.

Tine choices include solid and open-side design that combine with the four working speeds to deliver from 2" x 1.4" to 2" x 2.9" hole patterns at up to 3.5-inch depths.

For the name of your nearest distributor, or free literature, call 800-537-8233. Or write John Deere, P.O. Box 12217, RTP, NC 27709-9601.

NOTHING RUNS LIKE A DEERE®
Despite base closings, military golf course development on the rise

By J. Barry Mothes

Even though many military bases are being shutdown across the country, a significant number of new nine-hole additions and 18-hole courses are springing up on those that remain active. About 30 former military golf courses have become private or municipal golf courses over the past five years as a result of the Department of Defense's Base Realignment and Closure Commission, including such well-known facilities as Fort Ord and The Presidio.


This new flurry of additions and courses at active bases, which are funded from the military's "non-appropriated funds" from sales and services within the military operation, have vastly improved the quality of military golf and eased crowding on many of the courses, according to Al Stetz, the editor of The Order of Play, a newsletter of the Military Golf Association. Stetz created the Military Golf Association to advocate for military golf courses and the rights of retired military personnel to play.

A rundown of the new golf course construction activity at active military bases across the country includes:

— A new nine-hole addition opened for play earlier this summer at The Pines Golf Course at Fort Eustis in Newport News, Va., making it a 27-hole complex.

— A nine-hole addition is under construction at the Marine Corps Air to Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms, Calif., in the California desert, to make an 18-hole facility that will be open in November of this year.

— A new 18-hole golf course is under construction at Luke Air Force Base outside Phoenix. The course, designed by Gary Panks and Associates, is scheduled to open next year and will be the first at Luke AFB.

"We anticipate doing 60,000 rounds a year," said John Beckett, business operations flight chief at Luke AFB, which is home to about 5,000 active duty personnel with families and another 1,000 employees, "and that's on the conservative side." Beckett said there are also an estimated 65,000 retired military personnel in Arizona, with the vast majority in the Phoenix area.

The new golf course at Luke AFB is a joint venture between Maricopa County and the Air Force. The golf course has turned out to be part of a site that serves as a flood retention center.

According to Stetz, the National Security's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Panel approved $24 million in fiscal year 1996 to fund a range of golf course construction projects at active bases. That same panel has appropriated $9.5 million for fiscal year 1997, which covers new golf course construction projects at NCBC Gulfport in Mississippi, Jacksonville Naval Air Station in Florida, Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, and other facilities.

"In spite of all the base closures," said Stetz, "there is still a bright future for golf on military installations."
Time to don the banana suit?

In case you didn’t notice, this month brings our first marketing push for Public Golf Forum (PGF), the Golf Course News-sponsored conference and expo for superintendents, developers, owners and operators of public-access golf courses on Oct. 27 & 28 in Oak Brook Hills, Ill., headlined by the legendary Billy Casper. See, got the whole plug up in the lead. Shameless.

Of course, you may be the type who feels you already have too many conferences, meetings and trade shows on your plate. In that case you may pass it by — another brochure for the trash. True, your time spent traveling can only be spread so far and the market for your conference dollar has never been more competitive.

But if you own, operate, manage or maintain a public course, you may want to think twice before you toss another PGF brochure in the can. Some recent National Golf Foundation (NGF) figures tell an interesting story — one you may know — since it could be changing the way you’re doing business at this moment.

From 1986 through 1996, 80 percent of the golf courses opened were public access. In 1996, 88 percent of all new courses were opened were public (see statistics on page 3). There’s now a staggering 3,267 courses in existence in the East North Central region alone. Now, put those figures next to the fact that player-participation growth rates for the past six years have been simply stagnant.

Chances are, there’s a new public course opening somewhere near your existing public course and there isn’t a bumper crop of new players in the area. That existing core has a choice. Now, what do you do?

Renovation has been the path many courses have taken to lure new players and maintain the interest of course faithful. Remodulating to make a course more “playable,” moving tee boxes and replanting greens rank among some of the standard renovations. New courses are common these days with a lot of bells and whistles to lure players; older courses can breathe new life into their classic stylings to do the same.

Some courses are increasing their marketing efforts in their areas, while others plan to convert the occasional players through player development/learning centers. This move makes good, sound sense.

Think of all those “echo boomers,” or children of the “baby boomers,” who will be hitting their mature years at the turn of the century. Attaching a learning center can improve player retention while attracting beginners and women — markets golf has yet to tap into.

And if you’re not willing to make one of these changes, there’s always the “banana suit” method. A recent news report told the story of a public course owner who, in an effort to lure players, dressed in a banana suit and handed out fruit at the 10th tee.

Renovation and player development are just two of the topics Public Golf Forum will cover — smart, thoughtful alternatives to donning the banana suit.

The ‘Tiger Factor’ is keeping the entire industry busy

Has Tiger Woods spawned a new niche in the golf course industry?

It seems some forward-thinking golf courses are expanding viewing areas when Tiger comes to town. Just as the thousands of greens- and bunker-renovation projects around the country have spawned new profit-making, so too could this phenomena, if continued.

Think of it. Who could reap windfall from expansions of viewing areas? Golf course designers, large earth-movers, shapers, turfgrass seed and sod companies, micronutrient and fertilizer suppliers and, later on, chemical firms... The list goes on. And, where turf is not involved, bleacher manufacturers and others.

Everyone is looking for a niche if they don’t already have one. Are there any wannabe “turnkey spectator-expansion experts” out there?

The moderate crowds at PGA Tour events of the recent past have ballooned by two or three times — from 10,000 to 20,000 to 30,000 fans — when Tiger plays. Did you get tingles — and memories of Arnie and his Army — when the young man strode up the 18th fairway a month ago to claim his fourth victory of the year, and a mass of humanity trailed him, cheering all the way?

Either fortunate or foresighted, Firestone has been hard at work in preparation for the NEC World Series of Golf. Course architect Craig Schreiner (see Q&A, page 33) is adding gallery space on the 1st tee and挑剔 spectator area on the 18th hole. Space around the 18th hole also targeted in the plan as well as more “skybox” areas for execs.

“No question, Tiger will draw larger crowds,” said Schreiner. “Firestone is well suited for him.”

So, also, is the golf course construction industry. It appears.

Are sand bunkers hazards or not? With all the attention on firmness and being able to play out of them, they sometimes lose their relevance/obsolescence: to validate errant shots.

As golf course architect Marvin Armstrong said: “At this rate, at some point in the future they will ask us to remove the water from water hazards.”

It seems somewhat appropriate that Widow’s Walk Golf Course in Scituate, Mass., (see cover story) sits almost equidistant between the two most famous links courses in the world: St. Andrews in Scotland and Pebble Beach, Calif. On the cart path along the 17th hole and between the 3rd green and 4th tee, markers state: St. Andrews — 3,136 miles; and Pebble Beach — 3,152 miles.

An abandoned gravel pit now teeming with wildlife (and a handful of golf balls), Widow’s Walk may carve out its own territory of fame.

Letter

YAMAHA MAKES CLEAR ITS SPONSORSHIP ROLE

I want to commend you on your fine publication, and at the same time respond to your recent article on suppliers to the golf industry that were involved in golf tournament sponsorships.

I am sure that each of the major suppliers that you addressed has their own separate reasons why they made these commitments, and I would like to address ours at Yamaha Golf Cars, USA, and the Energizer Senior Tour Championship, sponsored by Yamaha Golf Cars.

The article and subsequent editorial were great for exposure, and I am sure that the questions raised were shared by many in the industry. Frankly, the issues of the perceived value of the exposure and the potential advertising value, of consumer-oriented advertising time, for business-to-business products, and weight of where the dollars may have been spent with more value, were all areas that were heavily evaluated within the management of Yamaha.

However, it will surprise you to know that these debates were not lengthy, as they were not critical to our decision process. We made the decision to commit serious dollars to this tournament based on the solid Yamaha corporate foundation of business partnerships and mutually beneficial relationships. This national tournament, and only this national tournament, offered an opportunity to build on this foundation.

The Energizer Senior Tour Championship sponsored by Yamaha Golf Cars, will soon enter its third year, and is blessed with many opportunities to present Yamaha quality to those previous unexposed. This has resulted in stronger incremental sales, more sales of electric cars, and most importantly, relationships and partnerships, areas that are critical to Yamaha’s growth in the years ahead.

We do not see ourselves as new players in the national tournament business, but as a quality golf car supplier continuing to build partnerships with golf course owners.

Michael Muetzel
National Sales Manager
Yamaha Golf Car Group, USA
IRS eases golf course management constraints

The following article appeared in the May/June issue of Golf Market Today and is reprinted with permission of the National Golf Foundation. Angelo Palermo is Vice President of NGF Consulting.

By ANGELO PALERMO

Thanks to a recent Internal Revenue Service ruling relative to golf facilities financed by tax-exempt municipal bonds, marriages between municipal golf courses and golf course management firms are likely to be occurring with much greater frequency in the years ahead.

It also enhances the chances of success for those who’ve already tied the knot.

Issued January 10, the new ruling (Revenue Procedure 97-13) went into effect May 15 of this year. It supersedes earlier IRS rulings that had been in effect since 1986.

Among other things, the old rulings contained a number of provisions that have fostered short-range thinking and carried constraints that have not allowed many public/private management partnerships to fully take root and blossom.

Prior to the new ruling, for example, the IRS had stipulated that the terms of these agreements could not exceed five years and that municipalities, if they wished to do so, could terminate these contracts without financial penalty after only three years. Conditions like these have discouraged many management companies from undertaking capital improvements and other long-term efforts to improve in the operation of the facilities they’re managing.

Under the new ruling, the ceiling on the term of such contracts has been extended up to 15 years. It also softens the “cancellation without compensation” provisions in the old law and liberalizes some of the old formulas that were used to calculate the various ways in which management firms could be compensated.

The new ruling affects current as well as future management agreements. For example, a municipality with a golf course now being operated under a five-year management agreement can extend that agreement for up to another 10 years.

The new compensation formulas will stabilize fees for these longer-term agreements. More specifically, fee payments to those management companies that land 15-year contracts must — under the new ruling — be at least 95 percent “periodic fixed fee.” This means that 95 percent of the fee must be a stated dollar amount each month. Under the old ruling, only 50 percent of the management fee had to be predetermined at a fixed rate.

For 10-year agreements, at least 80 percent of the management fee must now be periodic fixed fee. In all cases, automatic increases in these fees may be tied to increases in the Consumer Price Index and other such external factors that are not linked directly to the financial performance of the golf facility.

The impact of these changes will be far reaching for both municipalities and management firms.

For example, knowing that they no longer have to renegotiate their management contracts every five years may encourage more municipalities to consider the option of retaining a professional management firm. Management firms also now have a greater opportunity to build their business portfolios and to do so at less financial risk.

The new IRS ruling should also increase municipal bond-buyer confidence because municipalities that choose to retain a management company can now offer bond holders the added degree of certainty that comes with a long-term management agreement.

For more information on the new ruling and/or a copy of Procedure 97-13, contact Lorretta J. Finger in the IRS’s Office of Assistant Chief Counsel for Financial Institutions and Products. She can be reached in Washington, D.C., at 202-622-3880.
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Walking the talk at Widow’s Walk GC

Superintendent Jeff Carlson pushes all the environmental hot buttons — and wins

**By MARK LESLIE**

**SCITUATE, Mass.** — Some inventions seem to be just laying around under a bush waiting to be discovered by an innovative mind. Such was the case of the "sodwall bunker kit in waiting" — Dr. Michael Hurdzan’s answer to a standard, old-time stackwall bunker.

Fresh from a trip to Scotland, the home of sod-wall bunkers, Hurdzan was walking the property of what would become Widow’s Walk Golf Course here — an abandoned gravel site. "He’s walking along and finds this ugly carpet under a bush, and all kinds of light bulbs go off with him, and him alone," recalled Widow’s Walk superintendent Jeff Carlson.

"Voila! The idea of the "carpet-wall bunker" was born. "Maybe this will change the face of American golf a little bit," Hurdzan said. "It will add spice to a linksy golf course." "As an alternative to sod, I can’t think of a better one," said Carlson. "It has the potential to really stay in the industry." "You had to have the right client to try it," Hurdzan said. "This was the perfect opportunity because of the experimental side of the project. Now that it’s done it will be much easier sell." "I think sodwall bunkers add such a distinct flavor to a golf course that you...

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No, this is not sod, which needs repair every couple of years. It’s shag carpet.

**Used carpet for permanent ‘sod-wall’ bunkers? Good trade**

**By MARK LESLIE**

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**Inroads in ‘biologica’s’ research, Nelson reports**

Dr. Eric Nelson has been an associate professor of plant pathology at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y. since 1993. He has done extensive work with biological controls to fight turfgrass diseases and his work has been extensively published.

He holds master’s and doctorate degrees in plant pathology from Ohio State University.

**Golf Course News:** What type of work are you doing on biological controls?

**Eric Nelson:** We have two approaches. The first is the addition of organic amendments that provide a food source for beneficial microorganisms. The amendments enhance the microorganisms’ activity and control pathogens. We’ve replaced peat moss with compost in top dressing and seen up to 90 percent disease control with the compost amendment. Most of the control has been in foliar pathogens such as dollar spot, brown patch and gray snow mold. We’ve also seen control of pythium root rot, which is interesting because it isn’t a foliar problem. We’ve tried all types of composts: animal manure, yard waste, industrial sludges. Poultry manures and some sludges have worked very well. Brewery sludges have been very effective, having a sustainable supply with predictable results.

The second approach is specialized microbial inoculants. That involves spraying bacteria, fungi or actinomycetes (bacteria that grow like fungi) on turf to control disease. We’ve...
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Arnie leads the army, but E-Z-GO commands the motor pool.
Q&A: Nelson spells out progress of research into biological controls

Continued from page 13

EN: We're looking at whether long-term compost applications to perennial ryegrass increases the turf's ability to suppress disease. We want to know what a suppressive community looks like.

GCN: Does the USGA do a good job allocating its research funds?

EN: Like anything, there could always be improvements. But historically, the USGA has funded some great work. In the past, the USGA has felt the need to spread its funding around geographically. I'd prefer to see them prioritize the importance of the work being proposed, rather than worrying about spreading the money around the country.

GCN: What do you see as the most exciting areas in the future?

EN: The whole biological arena is growing exponentially. Superintendents will be inundated with products over the next five to 10 years. New formulation and delivery technologies will make them as effective as chemicals. We're already starting to see 100-percent control with biologicals in areas with low disease pressure. I have no idea about the economics involved. There are increased labor and fuel costs using biologicals. Courses will have to absorb those.

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WILLIAMSBURG, Va. — One of the best tools in the superintendents public relations arsenal is the club/course newsletter, which usually is written monthly, or at least quarterly. With this open forum written exclusively by and for the superintendent, communication with the golfing elite occurs in a lively and timely fashion. One of a supers favorite topics is the Turf Tip section, advising golfers of opportune topics of how to maintain their home lawns, trees, shrubs, annual flowers, wildflowers, irrigation systems, etc.

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The greatest use for the newsletter is a progress report of what is going on out on the course, why it is being done, when it will be done or has been done, where it will be done and who is involved in the decision making process. What it all boils down to is that supers are explaining that the golf course is under the mer- cies of Mother Nature and how, with even the best laid plans, that nature many times prevails. Probably the hardest aspect of writing a column is the timing as the press deadlines are many times 15 to 30 days prior to the mailing date, which makes it sometimes hard to predict what the weather will do and how it has affected progress on projects or turf growth or other non-predictable issues.

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A tale of bales of barley straw and algae

By MARK LESLIE

TORONTO — News flash: Folk remedy strikes at the heart of the pond algae problem.

While science and technology are striving to remove algae from ponds, some superintendents are accomplishing the task with a simple bale of barley straw.

"Generally speaking, I'd say it works," said Gordon Witteveen, director of golf maintenance for the Board of Trade's five golf courses here.

Witteveen, who has two or three bales of barley straw in each of his half-dozen ponds, said, "We've implemented it and had pretty darn good success."

Two bales per acre of pond is sufficient, he said. He also suggested wrapping the bale with chicken wire or fishing net to prevent its falling apart when it decomposes. The bale floats, anchored by a string tied to a cement block.

"In Canada we can't use any dye or chemicals for aquatic weed control in non-self-contained ponds. If the pond is self-contained, you can use chemicals, but you must get a permit for every application," Witteveen said. "Mechanical harvesters, or long rakes can take algae out. Fountains work well, too. This [barley straw] is another tool."

But why would barley straw rid a pond of algae?

"This is my theory," said Dr. Eric Nelson of Cornell University, who has seen this method work. "It ties up nitrogen during decomposition of the barley straw. And since it's the nitrogen in the water that promotes algal blooms, they stop."

"I have not seen any research to prove this. But it makes sense. When you mulch plants with wood chips sometimes those chips pull nitrogen right out of the plant."

One difficulty could be in finding pure barley straw to begin with. But the farmers Witteveen works with have a large percentage of barley in their fields, he said.

Meanwhile, using the bales adds a novelty to the course, right? "Everybody is talking about it on the golf course," Witteveen said. "They're asking, 'What are these bales of hay?'"

"We request our normal height dumpster, where the top is flush with the concrete apron, but they just aren't available sometimes. The total outside area of our maintenance complex, including the trash dumpster area, is completely lighted, using photo-electric cells with timers."
Software combines maps, database to customize

By PETER BLAIS

PORTLAND, Maine — A former assistant superintendent is ready to hit the market with a customized computer software application designed to help superintendents better manage their facilities.

The Golf Course Information System™ provides geographic mapping capabilities coupled with an organized database of all pertinent golf course management information in an easy-to-use Windows™ point-and-click environment.

"The system allows the superintendent to map his course and then use an historical database to spot trends," said Director of Sales and Marketing Peter Forester of Forester Associates Ltd., the Portland-based program developer.

For example, dollar spot was a yearly problem at The Glen Eagles Golf Course at The Equinox in Manchester, Vt., where Forester worked as assistant superintendent for three years following his graduation from the University of Maine. An extensive scouting regime determined the exact locations of dollar spot outbreaks. The club then treated only those areas where the outbreak regularly occurred rather than the entire area, eventually reducing the treatment area from 10.45 acres to 2.74 acres while maintaining a healthy turf.

In addition to the course layout, the system allows the superintendent to map such features as irrigation heads, specific locations and varieties of trees, diseased areas, and recommended daily maintenance routes and schedules. It can also store historic data such as daily temperature highs and lows, rainfall and humidity levels. This information can be laid over course maps to help predict potential trouble spots. The software can also store photos and videos as well as text and tables.

The software costs from $1,200 to $1,500, Forester said. The major cost variable is the mapping. Using aerial photos, Global Positioning System readings and/or CADD drawings, Forester will map an entire course in 40 to 80 man-hours. That cost is in addition to the software package.

Forester said the company has targeted a couple groups. One is management companies. The management firm's individual courses could e-mail their information into a central office and share that among the various facilities. Forester said he would also like to work with environmental associations, believing they may endorse the product since GCIS can help significantly reduce chemical applications.

For more information contact Forester Associates Ltd., 305 Commercial Street, Suite 503, Portland, ME 04101; 207-871-8659.

Design, construction seminar is scheduled

DELHI, N.Y. — The New York State Turfgrass Association, SUNY Delhi College of Technology and local golf course superintendent associations will sponsor a golf course design and construction seminar at SUNY Delhi on Aug. 5 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sessions will include: "Bunker Design — Avoid the Traps," by Ron Forse of Forse Golf Course Design and Consulting of Uniontown, Pa; "Proper Sand Selection and Tips from Experts," by superintendents Scott Dodson of Park Country Club of Buffalo and Joe Hahn of Country Club of Rochester. There will be a total of 1.5 DEC credits available for attendees.

New for this year is a special session for golf course mechanics. Hymie Williams of The Toro Co. will share information on sprayer calibration, maintenance and repair, and Brian Bridger of Foley United will present in-season reel mower sharpening techniques.

An afternoon shotgun tournament on the new 18-hole Delhi College Golf Course is planned.

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Carlson walking the talk

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Carlson acknowledged the spotlight will continue to be on him and his course. He and Terry Bastion, the ecological design firm Waterflowers in North Reading, are already monitoring all sorts of environmental data on this course; and local bird watchers are often on the property at 5 a.m.

"The day we got the job and saw the site, I knew it was a rare opportunity," Carlson said. "You don't get a lot of opportunities in your life, and one of them is to have a great site to work with ... I like to do selective clearing, and the site lends itself to interesting decisions; save this, move that. I thought it presented a lot of challenges that fit in with where I felt I was going personally.

"I had construction and grow-in experience, and I like to experiment. It fit, in that sense," he added. "I don't know where it will go. But it certainly received a lot more attention than I had thought."

The attention is not only because the land is close by the Atlantic Ocean, but also town officials consented with course architect Michael Hurdzan to experiment with the greens construction. Six greens were built to U.S. Golf Association specifications, six by the all-sand California Method and six with soil. Some of the root-zone mixes included Profile and other amendments. And all the greens were built so that Bastion could gauge chemicals from run-off and leaching.

"We've already put together a spreadsheet and will enter information like water use, fertilization and pesticide application," Carlson said. "We also do visual observations about how the turf is responding to traffic, etc. By the end of the year we will have a chart covering Year One and grow-in.

"Will we be able to draw conclusions? Certainly on water use. It looks like it will be a lot less. But I want to put a hard number on these percentages. I think they will catch a lot of people by surprise."

While Carlson said installing the variety of greens was "an attempt for a search for pure knowledge" for the golf industry, many of the conclusions from the findings will have to be tempered. "For instance, these soil greens look good but it's very high sand content and so soil, even in another part of Massachusetts, might be unacceptable.

"It will be interesting to see how California greens fare versus USGA greens. Anybody building a golf course on Long Island, Cape Cod, the coast of Massachusetts, any of these sandy areas ought to have their soil tested and give serious thought to using native soil. We may be able to give them an answer in a year or two about how good that really is."

Meanwhile, soil amendments, for one thing, are proving their worth, he said. "They make the texture of the soil much softer and, if they don't compact as much, that's good."

This is all a long way from where a young Jeff Carlson thought he was headed when he earned a bachelor's degree in English literature, with a concentration on Shakespeare from Drew University in Madison, N.J. The Connecticut high schooler had played golf and worked summers on a course on Cape Cod, but a career in the field wasn't on his mind.

Nevertheless, he stayed on at the nine-hole Brewster Golf Course, was promoted to assistant a year afterwards, and head superintendent five years later.

"I was eager and cheap," he recalled. His rise up the ladder came when he obtained an associate's degree in turfgrass management from the University of Massachusetts Stockbridge School and got a job with Corcoran Jennison and Scituate hired Corcoran Jennison to operate Widow's Walk, Carlson was given the opportunity many of his colleagues would have relished.

"There are things I'm anxious about," he said. "But, the task in general, no. I'm really looking forward to the challenge."

Continued on next page

THE PROOF OF A GOLFER

by Edgar Guest

The proof of the pudding is the eating they say, But the proof of a golfer is not the number of strokes he takes in a day, Or the skill be puts into a shot.

There is more to the game than the score which you make, Here's a truth which all golfers endorse:

You don't prove your worth by the shots which you make; But the care which you take of the course.

A golfer is more than a ball-driving brute, He is more than a mug-bunting czar.

To be known as a golfer, you don't have to shoot The course of your home club in par, But you do have to love every blade of the grass, Every inch of the fairway and greens.

If you don't take care of the course as you pass, You're not what a 'good golfer' means.

Just watch a good golfer some day when you're out, And note what he does as he plays.

He never goes on leaving divots about, Till the grass is put back, there he stays. Observe him in traps as he stands for his shot, Then note when the ball has been played, He never unthinkingly turns from the spot, 'Til he's covered the footprints be made.

You may brag of your scores and may boast of your skill, You may think as a golfer you're good; But if footprints you make, in traps you don't fill, You don't lose the game as you should.

For your attitude into the sport you enjoy, Isn't proven by brilliance or force; The proof of a golfer -- now get this my boy, Is the care that you take of the course.
Carlson
Continued from previous page
forward to it. In a situation like
this you're able to try different
things. Sometimes, in the world
of golf course superintending
there is so much pressure to have
an 'Augusta National' green that
the world gets flat in terms of
trying new ideas. So this is a
great forum for new ideas. In
that sense, there isn't so much
pressure. But then ..."

But then comes the realiza-
tion that this course does not
just have a green or two that are
troublesome and must be treated
differently; it has "so many things
going on from green to green
that they are very different," he
said. "They now differently.
T heir water use and response to
fertilizer is different. There is a
lot to take into account. With
such a simple thing as cup-chang-
ing you have to carry around
three different buckets because
you've got soil for one bucket,
100-percent sand for another and
USGA for another ... Those kinds
of things you never even think
are going to happen, do happen."

One concern facing Carlson is
managing carts on the creeping
fescue fairways. "The fescue is
tolerant of drought as long as
you're not driving carts or walk-
ing over it," he said. "It responds
in the same way as if you were to
drive over it when there is frost
on the ground; it gets burnt. I've
been spending a lot of time try-
ing to manage the entrance and
exit areas on the fairways. If there
is a sprinkler nearby I make sure
there is enough coverage to keep
it from drying out. I'm upgrad-
ing nozzle sizes on those heads. If
I don't have a choice, then I'm
trying to direct carts in one direc-
tion and lose that one area rather
than a whole general area."

Also, Carlson is experi-
menting with G-1 greens.
"I can't believe how little water
these greens use," he said. "This
course is in 100-percent sand base
and a lot of these greens are sand
greens. I'm watering less than 50
percent of what I would normally
use on a green."

Being as dense as it is and
with excellent recovery and dis-
ease resistance, G-1 might be a
good grass to combat poa annua,
he said. "With this low-water
regimen, you couldn't get it," he
added.

Meanwhile, the water source
for the course is an old town water
well abandoned because its levels
of calcium, magnesium and so-
dium went beyond the acceptable
drinking-water standards. They
were fine, however, for turfgrass,
and are constantly monitored to
detect any salt-water intrusion.

Working with conserva-
tionists, Carlson said, has been an
education. One aspect of that
education is clearing the land.-
"There's a lot of plant material
you can't just cut down," he said.
"You're picking around and leav-
ing bayberry and mowing down
some fescues rather than remov-
ing them. Because it was an aban-
don ed gravel mine, you can't cut
through some rough areas. It's
all weedwhacker and bush ro-
tary stuff and there are rocks
everywhere.

"I don't think you'll ever see
this course cleared to the extent
of others. And that's one of the
things Audubon wants: areas
uninhabitable by a human."

Carlson is continuing to place
bluebird and purple martin
boxes and monitoring the spe-
cies migrating through this site,
which is in a migratory pattern.

Does all this work mean more
manpower on his maintenance
staff?

"Right now it stacks up about
the same," Carlson said. "It's
perhaps one person more than
my other places. But I wouldn't
consider it more than 5 percent
more labor-intensive. For in-
stance, these greens are so
drought-tolerant that you don't
spend time syringing. But, we
are hand-mowing them and that's
more labor-intensive."

All this environmental work,
he said, "feels right."
"It feels right doing this stuff
with the Audubon and reclaiming
this ugly site and seeing the posi-
tive reaction from townspeople,"
he said. "You feel you really are
improving something forever."

And what does the future hold
in store for this Shakespearean
student-turned-superintendent?

"I'd like to do more courses
like this," Carlson said. "I'd love
an opportunity to do it again on a
similar type of site: coastal. It
would be interesting."

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CIRCLE #108

August 1997 21
Correspondence courses developed

Two turfgrass management correspondence courses have been developed by Dr. Keith Karnok of the University of Georgia's (UGA) Crop and Soil Sciences Department. One course is patterned after the intermediate turfgrass management course taught by Karnok. The other, Principles of Turfgrass Management, was developed in cooperation between UGA's Continuing Education and the Professional Lawn Care Association of America. The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has reviewed both courses and will award three CEUs toward recertification for each course completed. More information is available from calling 800-325-2090 or 706-542-1756.

IGM opens regional offices

LAKELAND, Fla. — To improve the level of service to its southwest and central Florida golf course clients, International Golf Management, Inc. (IGM) has opened a pair of regional offices in Ft. Myers and Tavares. "Our regional offices will enable us to provide existing clients with a higher level of service and will be an asset in securing new business in the rapidly developing southwest and central Florida markets which we view as tremendous growth areas for our business," said Scott Zakany, vice president and general manager. Located at 1419 Courtney Dr., the Ft. Myers office houses John Carlin, Southwest Florida regional manager. The Tavares office, located at 1617 East Alfred St., houses Jim Wells, Central Florida regional manager.

'Carpet-wall' bunkers built

Continued from page 13

"They can't replace any other way. The problem is maintenance. They have to be replaced every three to five years. You can't get anybody in North America to do it. I'm sure that, early on, sodwall bunkers were common here because of the Scottish influence. But at some point they died out, probably because of maintenance factors."

After experimenting with 6-foot and then 3-foot lengths of carpet, Carlson settled on short pieces, which can be built into "a little curly wall kind of like a brick wall."

The carpet is flexible and can be turned a bit like sod for rounded bunker faces, he said. Between each layer of carpet Carlson's crews spread 1/4 to 1/2 inch of soil and then seeded it. "We wanted the grass to grow and fill in. The seed buries its roots into the next carpet and gives it some structure."

Carlson recommended carpet that is not quite deep-pile shag, because it has to have body. Earth-tone colors like brown, beige and green are good, he said. "It's labor-intensive to build, but it is to build a stackwall bunker, too. And these will never have to be rebuilt."

Meanwhile, a local carpet installer gleefully dropped off his carpet remnants for Carlson initially. "Now I'm getting carpet from everywhere."

Hurdzan acknowledged that he for years had searched for ways to build cost-effective sodwall bunkers. "I've tried all sorts of things to built them: zoysia, old grass, young grass, stuff with a lot of thatch, painting the sod with lacquer so it wouldn't decay, things to try to slow down the decay of bacteria," he said. "But I concluded that organic matter decays, and so I've tried to come up with an inorganic source."

"I thought the conveyor belt might be the way to go, but it's hard to find and really might not have quite that look. I thought of old fire hose. Then I saw this carpet, and I thought there is carpet everywhere and it will last forever. I'd love to use it in future courses."

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Widow's Walk

Continued from page 1

groups, designed the course. “We recognize, both as environmentalists and golf people, that we are all passengers on Spaceship Earth and that we need to conserve the resources we have here,” Hurdzan said at a media opening. “This is an enormous attempt to try to put together an exciting, playable, fun, affordable, maintainable golf course using 50 percent of the water, fertilizer, pesticides and fossil fuel that a normal golf course would use.”

“You’re now sitting on an area that was barren,” said Scituate Board of Selectmen Chairman Joe Norton. “It was an area that nothing grew on, nothing lived on and certainly no one enjoyed.”

Hurdzan cited others who worked on the project, especially habitat planner Bill Burbank of Abellrette Inc. in Worcester and East Sandwich; Roy Parker and Lou Haines of Soils Management Technologies of Arvada, Colo., who contributed Profile porous ceramic and humates; Scotts Co., which contributed all the turfgrass seed and initial fertilizer as well as coconut core used on some of the greens; and Kerman, “the senior designer who handled all the details.”

Time — and studies conducted by Terry Bastion of the ecological design firm Waterflowers in North Reading — will tell the impact of the golf course on the wetlands and habitat on the 118-acre property. But all stops were pulled in its development.

• G-1 bentgrass, a new variety that uses half the water of others, was used on the greens.

• Fairways and roughs were planted with Victory II and Banner II creeping fescue grass, which are disease, insect tolerant and need less fertility than others.

• Cart paths are built with recycled asphalt.

• Carpet was recycled for use in sod-facetype sand bunkers.

• The Smart Rain and Toro Sitepro computer-programmed systems operate the irrigation, optimizing water and chemical applications.

The golf industry is particularly interested in findings from the greens construction. Three different drainage systems were built on each of three different types of greens. One drainage system is the typical U.S. Golf Association herringbone-type pattern. Another is a flat drain tile (ADS Advantage) system that is laid on the subgrade rather than trenched. The third is no drainage except a “smile” drain at the low point where the water will leave the green.

With each of those three types of drainage are three types of green:

• a USGA-specified green with a 12-inch root-zone layer, intermediate layer, if required, and pea gravel layer;

• a California Method green, which is a 12-inch profile of 100-percent sand on the subgrade with a micronutrient package in the top 2 to 3 inches of the green; and

• a native sandy loam green, using the best available soil from the site as the greens matrix.

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A golfer tees off over a pond 80 feet below on the par-4 17th hole, which exemplifies the ecological character of Widow’s Walk Golf Course.

A golfer tees off over a pond 80 feet below on the par-4 17th hole, which exemplifies the ecological character of Widow’s Walk Golf Course.
Removable hitch makes turning possible without a glitch

By Chris Nowack

Every golf course could use a heavy-duty, removable hitch that will allow operators to tow apparatus without having to fight to install the draw pin or the worry of operators turning too sharply and causing damage.

I came up with this idea after asking my superintendent why he only used our 1989 3-wheel truckster for pulling our 100-gallon Spray Devices, Inc. (SDI) sprayer. His reply was that the 1989 Cushman was the only vehicle that had a hitch that was convenient to use and did not cause damage to the sprayer when making sharp turns.

I focused my attention on the Cushman we had bought with a GA-60 fairway aerifier. Being familiar with the 5th-wheel attachment that you install on the Cushman to tow the GA-60, I began to design some type of a drawbar that would work with the receiver that was already bolted to the frame of that Cushman. I wanted it to be quickly removable so we could still use the GA-60 aerifier when needed.

After having completed the first one, I installed it on our 1994 Turf Truckster. Total time involved in constructing and installing this hitch was about 4 1/2 hours.

I immediately saw that the benefits of this hitch were exactly what we were looking for and made them for all of our Cushman Turf Trucksters.

The first step to building these receiver-type hitches, is to obtain these parts and materials:

- Receiver assembly Cushman part #897007.
- Drawbar assembly "only needed if your Cushman does not have the newer style" Cushman part #892795.
- 4 pins and clips Cushman part #882770.
- 24-1/2 inches of 4-by-1-1/2-by-3/16-inch steel channel per hitch.
- 34 inches of 2-by-2-by-1/4-inch steel tube cut in 17-inch pieces per hitch.

To begin with, install the two pieces of 2-by-2 tube into the receiver (part #897007) openings, leaving 7 inches outside the end, with the end with the plates having the two holes drilled in them. This should leave a 1/2 inch of the tube outside the opposite side of the receiver openings.

Holding each tube, one at a time, towards the center of the receiver, mark the tubes where the four holes are drilled in the receiver. Remove the tubes and drill out the four holes to 1/2 inch for the four pins (part #882770).

Next take the drawbar assembly (part #892795) and center it.

Continued on next page
Delhi mechanics school 'a success'

"Participants from around the Northeast who attended the program gave us very positive feedback," said Dominic Morales, Delhi College Plant Sciences Department chairman. "They were enthusiastic about attending an intensive workshop designed to update their skills."

The school is a spin-off of Delhi's new Turf Equipment Management program. The one-year certificate program, developed in concert with the industry, will train students to maintain, repair and manage the golf course equipment. It's a natural addition to Delhi's golf education curricula, according to Morales.

Strong golf industry support for Delhi led to the Turf Equipment Management program, according to Morales. "Industry support also results in more than $100,000 each year in equipment donations from leaders such as Jacobsen, Toro, John Deere and Ransomes/Cushman/Ryan," he said.

"There is a tremendous demand nationwide for trained technicians to maintain equipment on golf courses and landscape companies," Morales said. "In fact, there are about 50 job opportunities for every graduate of turf equipment programs."

For more information about the certificate program, people can contact the Plant Sciences Department Office at 607-746-4410 or the Delhi College Enrollment Services Office at 1-800-96-DELHI.

Hitch

Continued from previous page

on the piece of 4- by 1-1/2- by 3/16-inch channel, leaving the drawbar off center of the channel towards the bottom. Clamp the drawbar in place and weld it. Welding is a necessity in building this assembly.

When building this assembly, make sure that you weld the drawbar in place on the channel before the tubes. If not, the channel will warp from welding the drawbar and throw off the tubes from properly fitting into the receiver.

Cut off the piece of the drawbar that remains protruding from the back of the channel if you want.

Then, using the receiver (part #897007) as a template, install the two tubes and four pins (part #882770). Stand the assembly upright and place your piece of channel with drawbar onto the two tubes. After placing the channel on the tubes, make sure the tubes are flush with the end of the channel and that the tubes are off center in the channel, with them being about 1/2 inch from the bottom angle. Tack weld the tubes securely in place.

Remove the four pins from the receiver and remove the hitch.

Finish welding the tubes securely to the channel. When you are finished, the hitch assembly should slide into the receiver and fit with no problem.

Finally, to install the receiver on the Cushman, remove the bed shocks and slide the receiver into the Cushman frame and the receiver. Install 3/8-inch bolts in all the holes and tighten. Reinstall the rear shocks and slide the receiver (part #897007) into place.

All of the mounting holes should already be drilled in the Cushman frame and the receiver. Install 3/8-inch bolts in all the holes and tighten. Reinstall the shocks and then slide your hitch in place. Install the four pins with clips. Reinstall your bed.

You now have a heavy-duty, removable hitch that will allow you to tow all of the things you normally tow without having to fight to install the draw pin or the worry of operators turning too sharply and causing damage.

If you have any problems or questions, please feel free to contact me at 155 Golf Ave., Pittsford, N.Y. 14534; work phone 716-381-4494; home phone 716-425-9142.
Terry Buchen, hands-on types, and the ideal is intendents, the director and the are generally two kinds of super-

By MARK LESLIE

ROCKPORT, Maine — There superintendents would stay at a course 15, 20, 25 years. Today, superintendents are receiving bigger salaries, and that has occurred by supers moving. The average expectancy of a superintendent on a job is now six to seven years. One of the big reasons they move is to make more money.

The interesting thing is that when they move, the person who replaces them usually gets higher wages than they were paid and often gets the equipment that they couldn’t get, or even more equipment.

The advent of management companies in the 1980s — “when people realized golf was a moneymaking business” — has also brought major change to the industry.

“They are going to try to buy or manage every public-access course in the country,” Buchen said, “and that’s 70 percent of the courses in America.”

The impacts, he said, include:

• Some of those companies will fire the entire staff and make them reapply for their jobs. If those staffers are rehired, it will be for less money, he said.

• Some also remove health insurance from the benefit package, or make employees pay part of it.

• Many will reduce the superintendent’s salary, Buchen said, adding, “To do that, they promise a job for life.”

• Many times their budget is bare-bones minimum.

Buchen said there are far too many turfgrass students and assistant superintendents for the jobs available. And many of them do not have the background experience expected in the past when, he said, most colleges demanded three seasons experience before a student could even be considered for acceptance.

In the face of this, golf pros, club managers and some superintendents now want to be general managers, he said. At some clubs this leads to “a lot of friction, especially where the superintendent, pro and manager are all equals.”

While wages for superintendents are rising, so too are fringe benefit packages, he said. Most include moving expenses, interim housing, housing or housing allowance, a vehicle, retirement plan, performance bonuses, dues and conference expenses.

New, “in vogue” benefits are:

• discounts or free housing

Continued on next page

L-93 features improved resistance to numerous turfgrass diseases such as dollar spot, gray snow mold and brown patch. So it requires less fungicide in certain conditions than most other creeping bentgrasses. Its upright vertical growth and aggressive establishment helps prevent spike marks. And it’s been ranked #1 overall best performing creeping bentgrass variety for the past two years.

So the next time your greens, tees or fairways need seeding, give L-93 a try. You won’t believe how many golfers will come out to watch it perform.

"L-93’s grow-in performance surpassed all of my expectations. Its quickness of establishment and upright growth habit are quite impressive."  
Steve Malkowski, Golf Course Superintendent  
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Page 8
Keeper of the Green, Maples leaves lasting legacy

By MARK LESLIE

LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga. — Some know him for his SOS, or his SPOs with the GCSAA or USGA. But, the acronyms aside, Palmer Maples Jr. wears the mantle “Keeper of the Green” above all others.

The former president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association (GCSAA) and Carolinas GCSA, and director of education for the GCSAA from 1976-80, Maples retired on his birthday, June 22. The members at Summit Chase Country Club here, where he served as head superintendent for 16 years, honored him that day with a special celebration. They also planted a red sunset maple tree off the 6th fairway and unveiled a plaque on a 2- by 3-foot granite block declaring: “Palmer Maples Jr., Keeper of the Green, 1981-97.”

“I wear that label proudly,” Maples said. “I apprenticed with my father, who apprenticed with Donald Ross, who apprenticed with Old Tom Morris. And at St. Andrews, Old Tom was known as ‘Keeper of the Green.’ ”

In his semi-retirement (he will still consult), Maples said he will be known for his status as an SOS: Second Opinion Specialist. “I haven’t been bashful about giving an opinion,” he said. Indeed, his new business card gives him the SOS moniker.

As for his SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures), superintendents will recall how he brought order to GCSAA headquarters while president in 1975, with a number of SOPs covering such areas as education, membership, conferences and personnel matters.

But when that memorial maple tree grows and starts blocking shots into the green, Maples laughs, “people will start remembering me and it won’t be because of that plaque.”

His true legacy, Maples feels, is that: “I tried to share whatever I knew. I haven’t been bashful about giving an opinion. Since age 12 working for my father, I’ve learned. When you learn something, make application of it and pass it on.”

Indeed, communication has been the key improvement in the industry, he said.

“A lot more information is now available and being generated,” he said, “and that information has been communicated by the different associations to their members and from member to member. There is a tremendous opening in communications: e-mail, the Internet, print media, pictures, videos, field days...

Maples and all superintendents today are making a better presentation now.

“...they've always been good people — entrusted with the care of the golf course — and have tried with the means of men, money, equipment and time to improve the condition of the golf course,” he said. “But now they are more informed and communicating better in front of an audience. They appear more of a professional rather than someone who happened to be farming in the area when the golf course was built.

“The profession has changed — from a golf course caretaker to someone who is superintending a reasonable amount of money and the property, plus protecting the environment.”

“What does the future hold?”

“I see education and communications growing, and the business end perhaps outgrowing the agronomic end,” Maples said.

“Today’s superintendent hasn’t faced situations of 40, 50, 20 years ago when there was a lack of information. There is a different set of problems today. Many products aren’t available now. The grasses are different. But people are speaking to those situations and when they find an answer they will announce it. The education community has played such a large part in collecting and distributing information as needed.”

After graduating from the University of Georgia 38 years ago, Maples worked as assistant and head superintendent at Charlotte (N.C.) Country Club for 11 years, then took the superintendent post at The Standard Club in Duluth in 1970. It was during that tenure, in 1975, that he was elected GCSAA president.

A year later he accepted the job as GCSAA director of education, a position he held for four years.

He also served on the U.S. Golf Association (USGA) Green Section and the USGA Award Selection Committee, and as a member of the Donald Ross Society and GCSAA Historical Committee.

His return to green-keeping proved to Maples that he was “a lot more comfortable and more active working on a golf course than in an office situation. And the association was growing well at that time. I found a job here, that the Lord worked out...”

And that job gave him the most satisfaction, he said, in providing “a pretty good golf course for the golfers to enjoy. My greatest job has been satisfying the golfer’s desire for a well-conditioned course, so they could play the game according to the rules.”

That means keeping the fine sand edge, having the hazards marked, keeping trash out of the way, placing the cup correctly, and especially see the ball have that extra roll when the greens are fast.”

Membership here must have felt Maples did this all well. In 1988 they began an annual spring “appreciation tournament” for their head superintendent.

Yet, awards, presidencies and jobs aside, the highlight of Maples’ career, he acknowledges, was when he played the home course of the original Keeper of the Green, Old Tom Morris' Old Course at St. Andrews. "That," he said, "now that was special."
MARANA, Ariz. — Facing Arizona's tight water restrictions and striving to incorporate native grasses into their property, the architect and developers of The Links at Continental Ranch Golf Club here are using curly mesquite grass and purple threeawn. It is believed to be the first time they have been used on a golf course.

Curly mesquite grass is a drought-tolerant turf that can survive the 4 to 5 inches of rainfall a year common in the Southwest, and so it was a natural choice, said course architect Brian Huntley.

"I was essentially given a blank slate from which to create an authentic Scottish-style golf experience," Huntley said. "In the traditional links layouts of Scotland, courses are surrounded by heather and gorse. Curly mesquite grass and purple threeawn will essentially serve as the heather and gorse for The Links at Continental Ranch...."

The two grasses are being used to accent the fairways. Curly mesquite grass can grow as high as 6 to 8 inches when not mowed. It can, however, survive as low as 2 inches. Its growing season lasts from March to October. Planted in tufts, it sends out slender stolons, which in turn produce new tufts. The internodes of the stolons are wiry and measure 5 to 20 centimeters long. Its blades tend to be flat, usually 1 to 2 millimeters wide, and have a scabrous look to them.

University of Arizona Prof. David Kopec studied curly mesquite grass in the late 1980s, after gathering some of it in the desert. It showed potential to become an arid-region turf. Now the test is on.

Pacific Golf Management, which is managing the facility for the owner, Southwest Value Partners, intends to open the course in November. It is part of an 1,800-acre master-planned community northwest of Tucson.

Moncrief Scholars chosen by Georgia GCSA, Foundation

ATLANTA, Ga. — Four students from the University of Georgia (UGA) and four from ABAC have been named recipients of Monty Moncrief Memorial Scholarships, awarded to students in the field of agronomy and turfgrass research.

The Moncrief Scholarship Program is sponsored by the Georgia State Golf Foundation, with assistance from the Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association.

Selected from UGA are Jim Evans of Keene, N.H., Brent Miller of Savannah, Phil Petit of Woodbine and Max Schlossberg of Athens. Selected from ABAC are Jason Bridges of Perry, Wayne Johnson of Albany, Bryan Moore of Tifton and David Prescott of Fitzgerald.

For further information regarding applying for a Moncrief Scholarship, or making a donation to the program, people may contact the Georgia State Golf Foundation at 770-612-1788.
Conner succeeds Maples at Georgia's Summit Chase CC

LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga. — Craig Conner, who began his career at Summit Chase Country Club here and returned as an assistant superintendent 2-1/2 years ago, has succeeded Palmer Maples Jr., who retired in June. Conner worked at Summit Chase as a college student in 1986 while attending Georgia State University as an English major. He graduated in 1988 and joined the Summit Chase staff full-time until taking an assistant's post at Monroe (Ga.) Golf and Country Club. He holds a two-year degree in environmental horticulture from Gwinnett Technical Institute.

ANGELS CAMP, Calif. — Vowing to balance the course with its natural surroundings in "complete respect for the environment," Scott Bower has taken the superintendent post at Greenhorn Creek Golf Course here.

Bower was assistant superintendent at Twelve Bridges Golf Club in Lincoln which hosts an annual LPGA event, and at 27-hole Amherst Country Club. He holds a certificate in turfgrass management from Michigan State University.

NEWCASTLE, Wash. — Phil Niederbremer has been named superintendent at The Golf Club at Newcastle, an upscale, 36-hole public-access facility under construction in this Seattle suburb.

Before joining Newcastle, Niederbremer was on the executive management team and served as director of golf course operations at Loomis Trail Golf Club in Bellingham.

A 1989 graduate of Colorado State University with a degree in horticulture with a turfgrass concentration, his golf industry experience dates to 1980. He has held positions as foreman for the course architect at Fox Acres Country Club in Colorado, supervisor of landscaping at Fox Acres, and assistant superintendent at a public course in Kansas.

The first 18 holes at The Golf Club at Newcastle, designed by Bob Cupp, are expected to open next spring.

BEALLSVILLE, Md. — Ray M. Viera, former first assistant superintendent at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club, has been named superintendent at Four Streams National Golf Club here, the first signature golf course design of Nick Price. The upscale, public-access, 18-hole course is scheduled to open in spring 1998.

An assistant at Shinnecock Hills for five years, Viera participated in regrassing the course and an extensive irrigation upgrade in preparation for the 1995 U.S. Open. Most recently, he oversaw grow-in of the new Somerset Golf Club in Fredericksburg, Va.

He also served as superintendent for the 36-hole Palm Aire Spa and Resort in Pompano Beach, Fla., and held agronomic positions at Fox Hill Golf and Country Club and Westchester Country Club, both in New York.

JACKSON, Ga. — Tommy Bowman, formerly at Thomaston Country Club, is the new superintendent at Hickory Hills Golf Club here.

Also in Georgia:
- Doug Webb has left The Moors Golf Club in Milton, Fla., to take the superintendent position at Grand Island Club.
- Chris Paire is the new superintendent at Grand Island Club.
- Chris Paire is the new superintendent at Bradshaw Farms in Woodstock, which has been bought by American Golf Corp.
- Chris Paire is the new superintendent at Bradshaw Farms in Woodstock, which has been bought by American Golf Corp.
- Hickory Ridge Golf Club in Thomaston has hired Shannon Marion as head superintendent.
- Gerald Cox is the new superintendent at Horseleg Creek Country Club.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Mountain View Golf Club here has hired Shannon Crabby as the head superintendent. Crabby had been assistant superintendent at Green Island in Georgia.

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ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW LABEL DIRECTIONS.
IRRIGATION: Ready to leap forward?

By BRUCE SHANK

Irrigation's place as a management tool for golf courses is taking a quantum leap forward. Advances in golf course irrigation now outpaces the ability of many courses to stay current, while the golf course irrigation specialist is evolving from a specialized plumber into a database manager.

With this progress, however, a number of questions arise. Does your course require state-of-the-art irrigation technology to meet modern standards for quality of play? Pick a standard, then decide. But one fact remains constant: top-shelf golf requires state-of-the-art irrigation.

Today's central controllers can do that, providing the water distribution system is equally sophisticated. Standards for play are increasing across the board. Manual, quick-coupler irrigation falls far short today. Ironically, quick couplers are now used predominantly to give irrigation managers the flexibility they can't get from their automatic systems.

They give them the ability to stretch their systems to meet the needs of plant material in more complicated golf course designs. That tells us that average automatic irrigation systems are falling short on a growing number of courses.

Meeting standards on existing courses is one thing. What about future courses? The greatest limiting factor to the expansion of golf is water. To maintain the growth of the game, golf courses will be

Continued on page 50

Sulfur dioxide generator to the rescue

By PETER BLAIS

CHARLESTON, S.C. — "It would have made life a lot easier to have this sulfur dioxide generator before the Ryder Cup." — George Frye, superintendent, Kiawah Island's Ocean Course

While the golf world focused on the drama of watching the Americans win back that coveted trophy from the upstart Europeans six years ago, Frye's attention was on the beleaguered turf and trees that were suffering from irrigation water with pH levels of 9.0 and bicarbonate levels running upwards of 1,100 parts per million.

According to Dr. Thomas Ruehr of California Polytechnic University, when the pH level is above 7.5, large amounts of nitrogen evaporate from the water into the air through a process called ammonia volatilization. Nitrogen fertilizer efficiency is reduced and soil-borne plant pathogens frequently multiply in high pH soils. This is all bad news for turf.

Continued on page 50

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Toro's SitePro goes into beta testing

The Toro Co.'s Irrigation Division has its new SitePro computerized central irrigation control system up and running at 25 beta test sites around the country.

First introduced at the GCSAA show in Feb. '97, SitePro promises to handle hydraulic designs through the Windows 95 interface and Toro's exclusive Electro-Flow feature. Additionally, Toro's T Wizard set-up will feature a fast and flexible way to set up an irrigation system without touching a keyboard or spreadsheet. The system also features graphical system status at the station level. For more information contact Toro at 909-688-9221.

Watertronics adds features

Watertronics modularized skid construction now features integrated filters and fertigation units for its pump station.

Other new additions to the Watertronics unit include: patented electronic butterfly valves for surge-free back up pressure regulation in the event of an VFD malfunction; dripless mechanical seals for turbine pumps that eliminate packing gland misadjustments; and Watervision touchscreen controls for point-and-press information retrieval.

For more information call Watertronics at 800-356-6686.

Rain Bird builds Eagle's Nest

The Rain Bird Eagle's Nest adapter converts Rain Bird 47D and 51D impact series rotors to Eagle 700 and 750 gear-driven rotors conveniently and economically. The Eagle's Nest adapter allows you to insert an Eagle 700 and 750 internal assembly into an existing case without removing the case from the ground.

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Bear Irrigation offers The RG850/RG851 series replacement sprinklers. The 850/851 series features a 4" stainless steel riser, 53°-22° radius, 11.0-91.3 GPM flow rate, five interchangeable nozzles and a five-year warranty.

The 850/851 series can replace Ford's 030, 060, 730, 700, 650 and 750 series sprinklers, as well as Rain Bird's D series and Eagle 700 series. For more information contact Bear Irrigation at 909-308-1633.

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Bear offers replacement alternatives

Bear Irrigation offers The RG850/RG851 series replacement sprinklers. The 850/851 series features a 4" stainless steel riser, 53°-22° radius, 11.0-91.3 GPM flow rate, five interchangeable nozzles and a five-year warranty.

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THE QUALITY PRODUCT FOR SUPERIOR WEED CONTROL.
FALLING IN ON THE BOARDS

KAVAUNTH SIGNS ON IN AURORA

AURORA, Colo. — The city’s Golf Division has retained Kenneth M. Kavanaugh Golf Course Design of Tucson, Ariz., for The Homestead at Murphy Creek, an 18-hole, daily-fee course. Projected construction date is in the fall. Meanwhile, Kavanaugh is renovating Desert Forest Golf Club in Carefree, Ariz., and adding nine-hole expansions to the existing 27 at Gold Canyon Golf Resort and his existing Quail Creek CC in Green Valley, Ariz.

PALMER PROJECT UNDERWAY

COLUMBUS TOWNSHIP, Mich. — Ground has been broken at the Arnold Palmer-designed Dunes Columbus National Golf Course. Columbus Development is planning a facility with limited residential development. The 18-hole course will take advantage of the natural features of the site, which include sand dunes, lakes and wooded ravines.

MEADOWBROOK REOPENING

ST. LOUIS — Meadowbrook Country Club underwent a major renovation here last summer and will reopen this month. Keith Foster was retained to redesign the private club, which included work on all tees, greens and bunkers.

Phillips leaves Jones, starts own practice

BY MARK LESLIE

G

RANITE BAY, Calif. — Like the Marines, Kyle Phillips is looking for A Few Good Men — owners, that is.

Phillips has opened his own golf course design firm, leaving his position as vice president of design with Robert Trent Jones II after 16 years with the Palo Alto firm.

“I’ve worked on a lot of different sites — in the Caribbean, Europe and domestically and tackled a lot of problems,” Phillips said. “That experience will be helpful. But the owners are very important, and it’s crucial to get owners who are not only supportive in the design and construction process, but also in the operation of the golf course including the maintenance, which is so important.”

Phillips, 39, has designed about 25 courses since joining Jones shortly after graduating from Kansas State University with a landscape architecture degree. Two of those courses, in particular, he said, reflect what he hopes to continue doing: Wisley Golf Club in London and Granite Bay here.

“They provide very interesting, strategic design, particularly from the opening tee shots,” he said. “A lot of the new courses we tend to see today have bracketed (perimeter-weighted) bunkers and you feel you’re hitting driver between the uprights on every hole. I’ve always tried to make the straight shot available, but add the factor of risk and reward, awarding a carry or ‘shape’ shot...”

“What you find is not only interesting for people who hit the ball a long ways but also for average club member, because with that type of design there is a bailout position for the high-handicapper.”

A fan of such classical architects as Alister Mackenzie and A.W. Tillinghast, Phillips said he incorporates their “mid-bunkering” ideas into his designs.

Dream design course taking students to Ireland

DETROIT — Golf course architect Ray Hearn is presenting a seminar and itinerary “An Introduction to Golf Course Design on Location in Ireland,” Sept. 5-13, that will kick off at Royal Portrush and wind up at Waterville.

The series of seminar and discussion sessions is being coordinated in conjunction with Michigan State University (MSU). Dr. Warren J. Rauhe, MSU professor of landscape architecture, will co-teach.

“The true seaside links of Ireland and Scotland are a must-see,” said Hearn from his headquarters in East Lansing. “This trip will be a pilgrimage for anyone interested in golf course design.”

“As a young architect, these courses made a major impact on my design philosophy,” added Hearn. “There are so many lessons to be learned over there, to understand why these courses are sought out by so many people around the world.”

Participants will play, study and discuss Royal Portrush (Dunluce), Royal Country Down, Portmarnock (Championship), Lahinch (Old), Ballybunion (Old) and Waterville.

Some of the topics that will be covered in the traveling seminar include:

• The history of the game, golf course architects and Irish golf courses.
• Design and strategy.
• The design/construction process, course routing and greens/tees/hazards.
• Design your own golf course.

A certificate will be given upon completion of the course.

Hearn established his golf course design firm in 1986 after working 10 years with Michigan architect Jerry Matthews.


Schreiner shines on ‘classics’ & new work

Golf Course News: You came to the design business prepared through agronomy and landscape training. How important is that combination?

Craig Schreiner: It is the most important part of my background, the main reason why I have been able to get on my feet. It was custom-designed by Mike Hurdzan. I did everything he told me to do. And you know what, it worked. There are a lot of individuals who have segments of it. But very few who have all of them. Get a turf degree and learn how to maintain a golf course. That was a real eye-opener. I learned so much at Baltimore Country Club under [then-superintendent] Meryl Frank in summer of 1983. Then a year working construction for Wadsworth [Golf Course Construction Co.].

GCN: How does your agronomic train-

Continued on page 38

The 18th green complex at Oak Hill Country Club’s East Course in Rochester, N.Y., got a Craig Schreiner facelift in 1994. It included bunkers — renovated into the classic style and with resodded faces — and contouring at the rear of the green.

Craig Schreiner is one of a handful of golf course architects who hold degrees in turfgrass management (Ohio State University at Wooster in 1974) and landscape architecture (Oregon State in 1975). He also worked for Wadsworth Golf Construction Co. and for designers Don Sechrest (from 1985-88) and with Dr. Michael Hurdzan before forming Schreiner Design in 1990.

His Stone Creek Golf Course in Tulsa, a collaboration with Sechrest, and Cobblestone Creek Country Club in Victor, N.Y., assisting Hurdzan, have received high praise.

Continued on page 40

Kyle Phillips at work on site.

Continued on page 40

Continued on page 40
Arthur Hills designing his 1st course in England...

“...as is S.C.’s Clyde Johnston

WATFORD, England — The golf course architectural firm Arthur Hills and Associates will design its first British project here northwest of London.

Ground has not yet been broken on The Grove at Watford, a proposed 18-hole resort course. Developed by The Ralph Trust, The Grove project remains in the permitting process.

The par-72 course has been routed on rolling terrain along the River Gade and in close proximity to the Grand Union Canal.

The developers still owed presentations to the environmental groups English Heritage and British Waterways.

WATFORD, England — The golf course architectural firm Arthur Hills and Associates will design its first British project northwest of London.

“...as is S.C.’s Clyde Johnston

The Grove project remains in the permitting process. At press time, developers still owed presentations to the environmental groups English Heritage and British Waterways.

The developers are involved in several exclusive hotel facilities in the London area,” said Hills Project Manager Drew Rogers. “A hotel will be attached here, in addition to a conference center and state-of-the-art practice facility.

“It will be the first development of its type in the London area, as far as being a resort, conference center and hotel facility,” Rogers continued. “The course will be unique, but we’re trying to maintain the traditional English landscape. It fits very well into the terrain. Hopefully, this will be the beginning of other opportunities over here.”

A course contractor has not yet been retained, said Rogers.

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Questions? Call today about DTN Weather Center for your business.

Paragon reorganizes management team

NORTH PALM BEACH, Fla.—Paragon Golf Construction, Inc. has announced its new corporate management team. John Boyd was named president of the specialized construction company.

Other executives appointed at Paragon Golf & Construction include: Sal Rodriguez, vice president of western North America and Latin America; John Copeland, vice president of eastern North America and Canada; Chris Curbello, operations and project controls manager and John Mueller, vice president of business development.

Boyd brings more than 17 years of experience in the areas of commercial and mixed-use projects. He has been with Paragon since October 1996 as chief operating officer. Beforehand, he was vice president and country manager for Parsons International Limited.

“...as is S.C.’s Clyde Johnston

“...as is S.C.’s Clyde Johnston

“...as is S.C.’s Clyde Johnston

“Our overall goal at Paragon is to provide quality work for your clients in the areas that we specialize in, namely project management and golf course construction. We plan to dominate in these services for resort and golf related developments,” said Boyd.
von Hagge takes progressive look to Spain, Italy

BY MARK LESLIE

MADRID — Two golf courses that architect Robert von Hagge considers "as good as we've ever done anywhere" opened within a week of one another in June, here in Madrid and in Bogogno, Italy.

Real Sociedad Hipica Espanola Club de Campo opened its first 18 holes here June 14. Seven days later, Circolo Golf Bogogno, situated west northwest of Milan beneath the Alps, opened its first 18 holes. Both facilities will expand to 36 holes, the Milan course to open in mid-1998 and the Madrid course in 1999.

One of the top clubs in Spain, Real Sociedad Hipica Espanola Club de Campo is moving its headquarters from downtown, where urban sprawl has affected its property, according to von Hagge. It is an equestrian and golf club with 4,000 members.

Situated on "severe" topography, the course boasts "17 wonderful golf holes," said von Hagge co-designer Rick Baril. "When you have 17 out of 18 that are great, you're happy."

Developers followed unprecedented environmental and administrative negotiations on the project in the eight years since buying the property.

"Some of the oak trees are 300 to 400 years old and we had to preserve 90 percent of them," Baril said. "It has great charm ..."

"Great golf holes on great golf courses are on great pieces of property," said von Hagge. "The backgrounds of these holes are outstanding."

Since the clubhouse had been situated on the highest mountain on the property, there was a particular challenge in designing the course. Instead of using the valleys and ridges, von Hagge and Baril had to cut holes across the valleys and break through the ridges.

"It turned out well," von Hagge said.

Developers followed unprecedented environmental and administrative negotiations on the project in the eight years since buying the property. 

Real Sociedad Hipica Espanola Club de Campo is moving its headquarters from downtown Madrid, where urban sprawl has affected its property, to this, its new golf course.

The clubhouse at Real Sociedad Hipica Espanola Club de Campo is under construction, and work on the second course should begin next summer, Baril said.

Baril said the property for the second course lends itself to a better design because of its clubhouse location.

"Fifty percent of a design is tactical excellence and 50 percent is beauty," he said.

The second course will finish facing the sun, which breaks an old rule of design. But von Hagge argued: "There's no greater beauty than back lighting. So if you're 15 percent to the left or right of it, a finishing hole is quite memorable."

At Circolo Golf de Bogogno, Baril and von Hagge "created something better than anything else we've done over there," von Hagge said.

Citing Rinato Veronesi of developer Tio Tip for his preparations on the project, von Hagge said: "He allowed us to do what we wanted to do. And it's spectacular."

The land is ideal for golf, he said. "It possesses rolling hills, marshes, creeks — a kaleidoscope of experience, physically, with the Alps in the background when you look north and west."
Nicklaus' Aspen Glen targets trout, eagles — and golf

CARBONDALE, Colo. — Boasting an American bald eagle protection plan and trout habitat program, The Aspen Glen Club now has unveiled the first nine holes of an 18-hole golf course co-designed by Jack Nicklaus and Jack Nicklaus II.

The nine holes, which will be holes 10 through 18, feature views of Roaring Fork River and 13,000-foot Mt. Sopris. In fact, the 15th hole frames the river and mountain, drawing Nicklaus' comment: "What a great tee shot. Who wouldn't like this view?"

Aspen Glen anticipates opening the front nine this fall.

The course opening celebration, on July 4, featured a fly-fishing exhibition on the river, fishing being a draw to this golf community. Roaring Fork is designated as Gold Medal trout waters. To improve habitat for spawning, Aspen Glen created a 1,400-foot-long by 6- to 8-foot-wide spawning channel. It will also function as a nursery, allowing the fish to grow large enough to improve their survival rate on the river.

Aspen Glen also stabilized a 400-foot section of eroding riverbank, using logs, willows and grasses.

Bald eagles have frequented a spot along the river since the 1940s. In coordination with the Colorado Division of Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Garfield County Commissioners, Aspen Glen created specific measures to protect the eagles and their nests.

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. . . to ensure the course could handle the stress. Nature Safe has a complete package of nutrients. Being natural, I know I am getting plant food, vitamins, proteins, enzymes and trace elements not only for the plant but for the soil microbes. By building organic matter in the soil, Nature Safe's slow release fertilizer results in steady growth, great density, excellent color and healthy turf. With no burn potential, Nature Safe definitely improves the ability of the turf to withstand high stress periods . . . and believe me, I know a lot about stress!"

Paul Latshaw
Superintendent, Congressional CC
Site of the 1997 U.S. Open

Golf Course News 36 August 1997

CIRCLE #118

DEVELOPMENT

Coming to America

Graham Marsh sets up shop in U.S.

KANSAS CITY — Graham Marsh, winner of the 1997 Nationwide Senior Golf Championship and 60 tournaments around the world, will be seeing more of the American landscape than the fast greens of the Senior PGA Tour.

The Australian is expanding his 10-year-old golf course design firm into North and South America by forming an alliance with HNTB Architecture of Kansas City. The alliance will be known as Graham Marsh Golf Design (USA)/HNTB Golf.

Until this year, Graham Marsh Golf Design (GMGD) had worked exclusively in Australia and the Pacific Rim.

The new alliance has actively been looking at projects in Missouri, Hawaii, Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky, Michigan and California.

"In addition to playing golf on the Senior PGA Tour in America and having some success, I wanted to be part of the aggressive golf course market here," Marsh said. His design firm has completed 30 golf courses and has 15 courses under construction, all in Australia, Japan, Malaysia, Indonesia, China, the Philippines, South Korea and Micronesia.

HNTB Architecture has been planning and designing golf communities for 20 years. Since 1990, HNT has worked as a consultant to Tom Watson on several golf courses, including the Tom Watson Golf Course in Miyazaki, Japan, and Yashima Country Club in Awano, Japan. HNTB also has been actively designing projects in Missouri, Indiana and Washington and opened the Blue River Golf Academy in Kansas City in June.

"HNTB has the experience I was looking for," said Marsh of his new partner.

"The firm has diversity in its practice — architecture, engineering and master planning — and excellent golf course experience working with Tom Watson for the past seven years. It is an exceptional architecture, engineering and planning firm."

Chris Dimond, director of course architecture at HNTB, also sees the two firms as a great fit for targeting some of the thousands of golf courses planned for the next decade.

"Graham's reputation as an international golfer and as an outstanding designer in the Pacific Rim is invaluable," Dimond said.

Dimond also finds a unique compatibility in the computer and communication technology that both firms use in course design. "Over the past six years Steve Bauer, HNTB's senior golf architect, and Richard Chamberlain of GMGD have developed the world's most sophisticated computer-aided design applications in the golf design industry," he said. "I don't think anyone uses computers to the magnitude that we do. The new alliance uses computers to control earthwork costs, enables Marsh to review designs from remote locations while on tour and produce 'fly-throughs' of designed golf holes for owners as well as to produce design documents."

"Winning on the Senior PGA Tour and designing quality golf courses are my two main objectives in America," Marsh said.
World Golf Village taking shape in Fla.

ORLANDO, Fla.—Vistana, Inc., a developer and operator of vacation ownership resorts, reports that construction is underway at its 25-acre, 408-unit vacation ownership resort at World Golf Village, a premier tourism, business and golf destination under development near St. Augustine. Vistana Resort at World Golf Village will be the only vacation ownership resort on the property which is expected to attract as many as 1 million visitors per year.

The World Golf Village will be located within the 6,300-acre community of Saint Johns. The complex will become home to the World Golf Hall of Fame, the PGA Tour Golf Academy, the World Golf Resort Hotel & Convention Center, and includes a planned 54 holes of championship golf.

According to Vistana, Inc., construction will be completed in phases with the first 102 units to be completed by next spring. The resort will be situated adjacent to the World Golf Hall of Fame overlooking the 17th and 18th fairways of "The Slammer and The Squire" golf course, named for Sam Snead and Gene Sarazen, who provided design input.

"It is an honor to be affiliated with a project that is expected to become the centerpiece for golfers around the world," said Raymond L. "Rip" Gellein Jr., chairman and co-chief executive officer of Vistana. "Everyone involved in the conceptual development of the World Golf Village shares a common vision to create an environment offering championship golf, elegant shops and restaurants, and a variety of accommodations including whole ownership, hotels and vacation ownership."

The World Golf Village represents a collaboration on every level, from the major golf organizations and tours around the world to the participation of an elite group of development companies. Shell Oil Co. recently became the Founding Partner of World Golf Village.

Timberton adding 9 to McCumber's 18

HATTIESBURG, Miss.—The board of directors of Timberton Golf L.P. has decided to add a nine-hole layout at 18-hole Timberton Golf Club. "The Lakeview nine will be a tremendous addition to our facility," said Joseph Tatum Jr., president of Timberton Golf Club. "The entire team that helped develop our original 18 holes is present for the [new] design."

The original 18 holes, designed by Mark McCumber in 1991, will be named Valley and Creekside courses. The Lakeview nine, expected to open in July 1998, is the creation of PGA Past President J.R. Carpenter and Director of Golf Ron Hickman.

Tim Burge of Burge Engineering is overseeing the project. The construction and shaping contract were awarded to Len Burge of Len Burge Land Development Services.
Q&A: Schreiner
Continued from page 33

When they understand that, they get in line. It's also very environmentally responsible. The more trees you have, the more fungicides and pesticides you use and the more your turf is stressed. IPM (Integrated Pest Management) has to do with creating optimal environments, and that doesn't include trees on the south and east sides of your greens and tees.

GCN: How would you describe your design style? What do you like and not like?

CS: I really like playability. It's so important to have 45-yard landing areas, and an open approach to every green with an approach shot over 150 yards. It's so much fun to have the options to play the ball in a lower or higher trajectory depending on wind and pin placement. Playability is so important because that's where the creative part of the game is. If you restrict shotmaking you've lost all individual creativity. And that's the thing that makes fanatics out of us: the fact that we get to create a golf shot, if the architect gives us the option to create a shot. You have that happening in the classically designed courses. They give you alternate routes and enough room to go around it.

In the '90s and turn of the century you will see more playability in our golf courses, if you haven't seen it already. A good example is some of the greens we've done. The heart of every golf hole is the green. In architecture, that's got to be paramount.

The key is many, many pin placements. The degree of slope and area of the pin placements are critical. The square footage of the pin placements is key.

Continued on next page
Q&A: Schreiner
Continued from previous page
because that tells you where you need to be in the fairway. That influences your approach shot. Knowing where the pin is that day will tell you where you have to be in the fairway.

The style of a great course is playable landing areas so you can find the ball, or have a degree of error that is acceptable for speed of play or lack of frustration. And greens designed so it really does matter where the pin placement is that day.

At The National Golf Club, you can hit every fairway and shoot 100. But if you hit every fairway based on where the pin is that day, you may walk away with a 76.

Great courses usually have big greens. That movement on the green should always reflect surface drainage and that gets back to agronomics. The great masters of greens design have both of these things going for them...[Donald] Ross, [Alister] Mackenzie, [A.W.] Tillinghast later in his career, Dick Wilson, [Robert Trent] Jones Sr., Stanley Thompson, [Seth] Reynor. That's what we did at Firestone.

We renovated the 18 greens on the South Course, and took water off in at least three or four places of almost every green. They are so perfect now.

GCN: You worked with Wadsworth Golf Construction Co. once you got your turf degree. How did that help?
CS: You have to gain construction experience that most lack: not showing up as a site representative but actually working on the construction. There's a big difference between building and showing up in penny loafers and a rental car. I worked at Val Halla and the Fazio course at Barton's Creek [Austin, Texas].

I learned how to work and manage a site with construction equipment and where you can and can't go with it. I was in charge of a lot of siltation control, and it became a model for the area.

What does the future hold in store for you?
CS: Some very bright and positive things, I think. The advent of some new course work will probably be the best part of what we're doing. I would love to continue to work on new sites with our shaping company alongside other contractors. That will be our next goal and focus: an emphasis on new work. We are good at getting permits and being sensitive at how we route a course.

Perfect would be three nice new projects every year. That would be delicious. And I don't want to ever lose touch with restoration work. It's a pain but I love it. You learn a lot from the old courses. And there is satisfaction with solving difficult problems. I'm seeing a lot of practice facilities being built on older courses.

The thing we have to continue to do is keeping courses a lot more playable and at the same time keep a commitment to IPM. The environment is really important. The enhancement of wildlife habitat is going to be one of the easiest things to continue to do. Initially, from beginning to end on a new course, there are a lot of things you can do during construction to augment habitat. That's what we did at Greystone. In terms of reworking wetlands, in building certain lakes to build shallow shelf, letting certain areas transition to native areas, and introducing native grasses in the right spots. A little more enhancement goes beyond the golf playing area, and as you transition out of the other areas, then start to develop habitat areas and be more aware of how we can make the site work to a bigger dimension. It's not that hard to do.

The very first golf courses were in beautiful natural areas and laid out in that context. That's kind of where we're headed back. It's nice to see a resurgence and a Renaissance. It's a little tamer and more naturalized areas are the trend.
Casper, Nash enter Lewis & Clark country with new track

GREAT FALLS, Mont. — PGA Hall of Famer Billy Casper and Phoenix-based Greg Nash have been selected to design the new Foothills Golf Club here. The project, which will anchor a planned resort component, is being developed by Northwest Real Estate Development.

"I have been familiar with Greg Nash and have followed his work for the past 15 years," said Brian Smithling of Northwest Real Estate Development. "I think he is one of the finest, if not the finest, golf course architects operating today. His designs are beautiful, challenging and a pure joy to play. He and Billy are also very hands-on and take active roles in assuring the quality and integrity of their designs throughout the construction process. That means a lot to me as a developer, and it will translate into a great experience for our guests."

The upscale, daily-fee golf course broke ground in July and should be ready for play by spring 1999. The golf club is located in the heart of "Lewis & Clark country," between Glacier and Yellowstone national parks. The 7,000-yard, par-72 course will reflect the "wild and woolly" character of the land. Nash plans a parallel fairway design, with wide landing areas, generous greens — averaging 6,500 square feet — and rolling terrain. The fairways will be planted with cool-season turf, like bluegrass and fescue. Out-of-play areas will be accented by knee-high fescue and native grasses. The greens will all be bentgrass. Adding to the course's challenge will be more than 60 sand bunkers, 30 grass bunkers, several small lakes and dramatic golf holes like the 616-yard, par-5 9th and the 414-yard, par-4 18th which plays uphill to a green fronted by four bunkers.

Phillips on own

Continued from page 33

"Stylistically," he said, "the classical golf courses have a lot of bunkers not just at the landing areas or at the greens, but mid-bunkering. A lot of players find that interesting and challenging. I think it adds a lot of not only aesthetic value but strategic value so that players of all levels have different landing areas. You create a risk-and-reward factor and strategic value for all golfers."

Phillips said his designs aim for the timeless and classical architectural concepts illustrated in the longer, softer lines with spill-offs featured at the flat site of Wisely Golf Club and the rolling terrain at Granite Bay.

"But I've had the opportunity to design completely different styles," he said. "Sometimes the landscape itself projects its own style. I think the phrase 'listen to the land' has been overused, but you need to understand the climate, your client, the user, and the budget they will have to maintain the course."

Phillips, whose work spans from Royal Westmoreland in Barbados to Penha Longa Golf Course in Lisbon, Portugal and Sugarloaf Golf Club in Maine, said he will continue to do domestic work and draw on contacts he has built in the Caribbean and Europe.

In the meantime, he will finish the RTJII jobs under construction. A course opened in Indiana this summer, another in Berlin is getting wrapped up, and four others are in the works. Other projects(6,5),(996,983)

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CIRCLE #124
MOVING ON UP

Handling change key to Schlick's Marriott success

By PETER BLAIS

Variety, they say, is the spice of life. In Tom Schlick's case, it is what makes Marriott Golf's director of grounds operations look forward to coming to work each morning.

"I realized pretty early that I wasn't cut out to be a maintenance superintendent," said the University of Florida graduate, who oversees Marriott's 19 golf facilities and has grown in two of them. "I like new construction. They can take three to five years to come complete and things are changing all the time.

"Change is what appeals to me about this job. I'm involved with everything here — construction, architects, manufacturers. It's different every day."

Schlick hadn't planned on a golf industry career. After earning his bachelor's degree in ornamental horticulture, he started his own commercial landscape contracting business in New York. While bidding on Marriott's Wind Watch Golf Club in Haspang, Long Island, he was offered the assistant superintendent's post.

"I hadn't considered a golf career," said Schlick, who worked part-time on the University of Florida's Gainesville course grounds crew while in college. "I knew nothing about golf course maintenance.

But it was the late 1980s and the recession was hitting strong in New York. So I decided to give it a try.

Schlick helped grow in seven of the Joe... Continued on page 42

Lightning liability a tricky issue at golf courses

The following article was reprinted with the permission of NewsLinks, a quarterly newsletter published by Golf Property Analysts of Harrusburg, Pa. Ian Meklinsky is an associate with the law firm of Fox, O'Brien & Frankel LLP in Philadelphia.

By IAN MEKLINSKY

A New Jersey court has handed down the nation's first known ruling that lightning is not an act of God when it hits a golfer.

On March 28, 1993, Spencer Van Maussner, a member of the Atlantic City Country Club, was playing the back nine when one of his golf partners saw lightning. Since there were no man-made shelters along the way, they proceeded toward the clubhouse. While they walked, Mr. Maussner put up his umbrella and was struck by lightning. Although he survived, he was severely injured and sued the Club and its owners.

The case was dismissed before going to trial after the county Superior Court Judge found that the "proximate cause" of the injuries was lightning, an act of God, and that the "secondary cause" was the golfer's activities in exposing himself to the possibility of being struck. Mr. Maussner appealed from this dismissal.

A two-judge appeals panel reversed the lower court and ruled on April 4 in Maussner v. Atlantic City Country Club, Inc., that breakthroughs in engineering and forecasting have given golf courses the capability to protect golfers from lightning better than ever. Therefore, though courses do not have an affirmative duty to prevent injuries, they are liable if they establish protective systems and whether the club reasonably instituted and carried them.

The appeals court found that the Atlantic City Country Club had, by its actions (the Atlantic City club's practice was to monitor the weather, and it had an evacuation plan that consisted of golf course personnel driving onto the course to warn golfers), assumed a duty to warn golfers and that it is for a jury to determine whether the club exercised the duty reasonably. On remand, the court could permit discovery of industry data to help the jury determine what protection the club offered to its golfers and whether the club reasonably instituted and carried out these precautions.

The ruling sets the stage for proceeding... Continued on page 42

Palmer selects 1st course franchisee

ORLANDO, Fla. — Arnold Palmer Golf Management recently signed on its first franchisee, Braeburn Golf Course operated by Reflection Ridge Corp. in Wichita, Kan.

"As our first franchised course, Braeburn is our newest prototype and will be closely watched by both the industry and the thousands of independent owners around the United States," said Peter Nanula, Chief Executive Officer of Palmer Golf Management.

"I decided recently that a franchise opportunity with Palmer Golf was the perfect opportunity for Braeburn. To me, association with the Palmer system is a major launching pad to distinguish our course from the rest of the competition."

The idea to franchise courses under the Palmer brand came to executives of the company who observed that many course owners were either unwilling to sell their facilities or to bring... Continued on page 44

RDC makes splash along East Coast

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — RDC Golf Management Co.'s recent purchase of Heritage Links Country Club (GC) in Gainesville, Fla., puts the relatively young management firm into double figures in courses. The semi-private club is RDC's third acquisition in the last year and gives the Parsippany-based company 10 courses at eight locations along the East Coast.

"We're looking to add an average of four courses a year through lease, purchase or management arrangements, although our preference is acquisitions," said company President Chris Schiavone, who co-founded the firm in 1993. "We're looking at properties from Florida to New England. We don't want to be the biggest, just the best in our regions."

RDC is planning $500,000 in improvements to the Heritage Links' course and 25,000-square-foot clubhouse. The company has added $100,000 to the course equipment purchase budget and will soon begin a major upgrade to the irrigation system and cosmetic changes to the course.

"The members and public guests will see significant improvements in all areas of Heritage Links' operations, with particular attention to course conditions and the food and beverage operation," said RDC Vice President of Operations Steve Phillips.

These are two areas of particular importance to Schiavone, whose experience operating golf courses took root at 54-hole Fiddler's Elbow CC, a New... Continued on page 44

NGP DECLARES DIVIDENDS

SANTA MONICA, Calif. — National Golf Properties Inc. declared a dividend of 42 cents per share for its fiscal quarter ended June 30 for each share of common stock owned by stockholders of record as of July 31. The dividend payment date is Aug. 15. NGP has completed several different lightning paintings intended to heighten golfer awareness of the dangers of lightning and safety precautions golfers should follow during storms. The framed 48-by-48-inch paintings sell for $4,800. Roger can be reached at 908-842-1236.
Schlick
Continued from page 42
Lee-designed holes under construction at Wind Watch and eventually took over as head superintendent. He stayed on for a year after the course opened.
"Tom was the first superintendent I'd ever met who understood a course's entire business operation," said Marriott Director of Golf Operations Bill Nault, who has worked with Schlick since the two were first paired at Wind Watch in 1989. "He was able to balance the growing of turf with the business decisions the pro makes to maximize rounds and make the operation profitable. Bringing those two needs together is a tough thing to do."
Added Schlick: "It's critical in the daily-fee environment for a superintendent to understand the need to make a profit and to work with the pro and golf director toward that goal. An owner expects to make his 10- to 15-percent return. If the general manager is having a bad month, the superintendent can help by delaying costs, like an ornamental planning, for a few months. I've worked with good golf directors and they'll usually return that money to the maintenance budget as soon as they have a good month."
Schlick earned a Golf Course Superintendents Association of America regional Environmental Stewardship award at Wind Watch (1992) and both a national (1993) and regional (1994) award at Marriott's Shiloh Falls Golf Club in Preswick Dam, Tenn., where he served as site manager during construction of the Jerry Pate-designed layout.

As the Marriott golf empire grew, then-Marriott Golf President Roger Maxwell, generally regarded as a golf merchandising genius, realized he needed a director of agronomy to deal with that side of the business. Forty candidates were considered for the job. Maxwell recommended Schlick before he left to start his own company. Maxwell's replacement, Claye Acheson, offered him the position.
"It helped that I already worked for the company and knew the Marriott method of doing things," Schlick said of his selection. "But I also felt I had proven myself on two tough projects. If didn't know the answer to a problem, I kept asking people until I found the answer. That is an important ability for a person in my position in an industry that is evolving as rapidly as golf."
Relationships changed as Schlick moved up the corporate ladder. Peers became employees. Critiquing a former co-worker's performance occasionally caused problems.
"But again, I was fortunate to work with good people who, once the dust settled, handled things professionally and moved on. I've made mistakes and it's helped to admit my error in those cases. You are dealing with intelligent, college-educated people. If I make a mistake, they know it."
Schlick enjoys his job, although the 70,000 miles he travels yearly can be taxing, especially with a 2-year-old at home.
"If the right resort project came along, I'd consider going back to the field to grow it in," he said. "It would have to be a huge project, like our Desert Springs facility near Phoenix."

After manufacturing over one million dependable battery chargers, why is this ad the most memorable thing we've produced?

The fact that our chargers are so forgettable is what makes them so remarkable. After all, the last thing you want to think about is whether or not your golf cars have been properly charged.

For over 30 years we've manufactured the golf industry's finest battery chargers under strict quality controls. Many carry the Lestronic label, while others are private labeled. Whether you know it or not, you probably already have a Lester charger in your car barn. And if you don't, you probably should.

Lightning
Continued from page 41
Courses must post signs that identify safety procedures to be used, but it added: "If a particular golf course uses no safety precautions, its signs must inform golfers that they play at their own risk and that no safety procedures are being utilized to protect golfers from lightning strikes."
In reaching the conclusion that the act of God defense was not dispositive, the appeals court looked to cases that hold that the imposition of a duty turns on whether it is fair under all circumstances in light of public policy considerations. Continuing, the court indicated that lightning is increasingly falling into the category of hurricanes and tornadoes; disasters that have become more predictable.
Although there are a number of companies that provide protective systems that reduce the risks, courses must now carefully consider the extent, if any, they are willing to "interpose" themselves between their patrons and God.
Continued from page 1

regularity toward the Whitbread PLC subsidiary. Operator of 13 courses at eight UK venues, Whitbread has become the leading operator of golf courses in the United Kingdom.

Two years ago, Whitbread purchased the right to franchise Marriott hotels in Great Britain and attached the Marriott name to its golf course properties. The Whitbread/Marriott golf portfolio includes:

• St. Pierre Hotel and Country Club (H&CC) in Chepstow, Wales — two 18-hole courses and site of last September's women's Solheim Cup.
• Forest of Arden H&CC in Warwickshire — two 18-hole courses and site of the 1996 English Open.
• Dalmahoy H&CC in Edinburgh, Scotland — two 18-hole courses and a regular European Tour venue.
• Hanbury Manor H&CC in Ware — includes a Harry Vardon-designed course that was redesigned by Jack Nicklaus Jr. and hosted the 1996 European Open.
• Goodwood Park H&CC in Chichester — an 18-hole course.
• Breadsall Priory H&CC in Derby — two 18-hole courses.
• Tudor Park H&CC in Maidstone — includes an 18-hole Donald Steel-designed course.
• Meon Valley H&CC in Southampton — an established 27-hole golfing venue that will begin carrying the Marriott banner later this year.
• Treudelberg in Hamburg Germany — an 18-hole golf facility.

"They [Whitbread] are a franchise partner," explained Claye Atcheson, vice president of operations for Marriott Golf. "They operate the golf courses and we provide a consultant arrangement. All eight facilities are hotels with golf courses."

Added Kevin Hammock, Marriott Golf's director of operations and business development: "The courses are run by the pros at Whitbread. We simply work with them to try to make the Marriott golf experience a consistent, quality one throughout the world. Whitbread Group Leisure Director Rob Baruck runs the golf operations."

Whitbread will continue to develop its country club locations under the Marriott flag. In addition to the above facilities, Whitbread is building two 18-hole layouts in the U.K. that will both open in 1998 — one at the Marriott Manchester and the other at Marriott Hollins Hall in Bradford. The architect for both is European Golf Design.

While not as common as in the United States, the number of multi-course operators, like Whitbread, is growing throughout Europe, Atcheson said. There are no mega-management firms, like giants American Golf Corp. and ClubCorp in the United States. But there are a number of two- and three-course operators, Atcheson said.

"You'll see some more consolidation of course ownership as time goes on," the Marriott executive predicted. "We feel we can deliver a higher level of customer service and maintenance delivery than golfers are accustomed to. We don't want to Americanize the courses, we just want to raise the bar a little."

GRANITE FINALIZES $100M FINANCING

PHOENIX — Granite Golf Group Inc. has finalized the contract for its $100 million forward-financing package with Lone Star Opportunity Fund, L.P., a Dallas-based investment fund. The fund will be utilized for the acquisition of public golf course facilities throughout North America, with a target of acquiring 20 or more golf courses during the next two years. Granite will also pursue the acquisition of regional golf management companies that operate or own clusters of golf courses in areas of significant growth potential.

"Thalonil? There's one big difference to me. It's from Terra."

"I've seen the results first hand. I've looked at the university studies. Fact is, it all tells me that Thalonil controls disease as well as — or better than — any other chlorothalonil I can use. Including the other national brand. And even though there may not be any difference in product performance, there is a definite difference in people performance. Terra understands what I need and they make certain I get it. Product. Value. Service. Real know-how that I can trust. It's all there. If you ask me, the real difference in fungicides comes down to the people you deal with. That's why I work with Terra. And, that's why I use Thalonil."

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Golf Trust of America closes on $100m financing package

CHARLESTON, S.C.—Golf Trust of America, Inc. has closed a two year, $100 million secured revolving credit facility with a group of four commercial banks led by NationsBank, N.A. Borrowings under the facility will carry a floating interest rate of LIBOR plus 1.75-2 percent with provisions for the rate to be reduced upon the attainment of a Senior Debt Rating.

"The line of credit will enable us to have a ready source of capital to pursue further acquisition opportunities in the upscale golf course market," commented W. Bradley Blair, II, President and Chief Executive Officer of Golf Trust of America, Inc.

Golf Trust of America, Inc., is a real-estate investment trust specializing in course ownership. The company has interests in a portfolio of 10 courses located throughout the United States.

Cool tools for hot spots.

If you've been using a pitchfork and hose to treat those high and dry trouble spots on your tees and greens, our new Spot Doctors will make your life considerably easier. Whether you use the tine unit for deep penetration or the roller unit for shallower treatment, you'll appreciate the ease and efficiency they bring to the job. Both quickly attach to a hose fed by your irrigation system. The tine unit works like a combination pitchfork and syringe. Just place the tines on the spot and squeeze the pistol grip. There's no need to push or force the tines into the ground. Water pressure helps them slide through the soil like a hot knife through butter—delivering water to a depth of up to six inches. The roller unit can be wheeled back and forth over dry spots like a vacuum cleaner to distribute water to a depth of up to two inches. Both units can be used with a surfactant applicator to further increase soil permeability. Cool!

Spot Doctors are the latest in our long line of specialty tools designed specifically for golf and sports turf professionals. For all the details, simply contact your nearby Standard Golf distributor and ask about Spot Doctors. They're the cool tools for hot spots!
Toro commits to training

New facility is next step toward creating "total solution" ideal

BY MICHAEL LEVANS

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — Marking its biggest commitment to training and equipment support to date, the Toro Company will open a 5,800-square-foot training facility designed for customers, distributors and Toro employees this fall.

The facility, located at its Bloomington headquarters, houses two classrooms, four lift-equipped service bays, as well as video conference and audio-visual capabilities.

The company said the facility is its next step in building a "total-solution approach" for its customer base.

"This gives us the physical facility we've needed to augment the training we've been doing in the field," said Don St. Denis, Toro's director of public relations.

"We're [Toro] in a unique position in terms of services we can offer. We have irrigation and equipment, but we also get involved with the architects and can advise on the grow-in and fertilization. So we see the information training as an extension of that work in order to help our customers manage their facility."

Training curricula, to be held in week-long units, will be taught by Toro personnel and will consist of courses designed to meet certification requirements for professional organizations and help attendees earn continuing education credits.

"Curriculum will be devoted to our commercial turf products and will focus on basic hydraulics, electrical systems, troubleshooting and preventive maintenance among others," said Rich Smith, Toro's service training manager. "These courses will be devoted to the golf and commercial landscape industry," Smith said.

Classroom lab areas and service bays will focus

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Cyanamid's Rowe heads Midwest

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Herbicide and insecticide manufacturer American Cyanamid Company announced that Kit Rowe is now midwestern territory manager for the company's Turf and Ornamental Products Group and Pest Control Products Group. Rowe's territory includes Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, western Pennsylvania and Kentucky. His office will be located in Columbus, Ohio. Rowe joined Cyanamid in 1995 as territory manager in the mid-Atlantic states. His territory included Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, southern New Jersey, southeastern Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Schumacher joins Jacklin

POST FALLS, Idaho — Derek Schumacher has joined Jacklin Seed Company as a grower field representative for Jacklin's Oregon operation. Schumacher's responsibilities will be placing and contracting Tall Fescue and Perennial Rygrass proprietary varieties for Jacklin Seed Company and Medalist America. He will focus on field consulting with growers assuring quality control from the grower to the customer. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Crop and Soil Science from Oregon State University in March 1997, and spent summers prior to coming to Jacklin Seed working for Doerfler Farms Inc. in Aumsville, Ore.

Exclorisor's Jones goes west

ARLINGTON, Texas — American Exclorisor Co. has appointed Larry Jones western sales manager for its Earth Science Division. Jones recently joined American Exclorisor from Weyerhaeuser Engineered Fiber Division. In his new position, Jones will be responsible for the sales and marketing of the company's erosion control products in 15 western states. He will supervise six sales/territory managers and develop distribution channels through American Exclorisor's branch offices, selling direct to contractors and through selected distributors.

Lofts acquires Sunbelt, gains 100% control

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Lofts Seeds Inc. has completed its acquisition of Sunbelt Seeds, Inc., a wholesale grass seed and fertilizer distributor located in Norcross, Ga.

"Lofts already had 50-percent ownership in Sunbelt," said Neil Myers, Lofts' spokesperson. "We felt it was a good move to establish 100-percent ownership since Sunbelt is one of the largest distributors in the Southeast."

"This was a natural outgrowth of their original purchase of the 50-percent," said Joe O'Donnell, general manger of Sunbelt. "They have a strong background in the seed industry. And even though they were a 50-percent partner, they were the 50-percent seed-oriented partner. This was a logical progression."

Under the new arrangement, Sunbelt Seeds will function as a subsidiary of Lofts Seed and will sell seed to golf courses, sod farms, retail stores, landscapers, lawn-care operators, sports facilities and government municipalities.

O'Donnell will be staying on board as general manager.

We are very excited with this acquisition because it will enhance our capabilities and services for our existing customers and opens new market opportunities," said Richard Budd, Lofts' chief executive officer.

Lofts operates branches in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Ohio, North Carolina and Oregon and markets turfgrass seed internationally.

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Eozyme eats away at contaminants

BELLEVUE, Wash. — Eozyme Environmental Inc., a company that focused on waste-water treatment for auto repair and truck facilities, has decided to sic its secret weapon on the pesticides, oil and grease that superintendents encounter at equipment washing stations.

Instead of using a traditional filter system, Eozyme's WaterStax system eliminates contaminants through bioremediation technology — the use of naturally occurring microorganisms to degrade pollutants.

"With a filter, the problem isn't solved," said Paul Schuman, Eozyme's spokesperson. "You collect the contaminants in a filter but you don't eliminate the contaminants. Our microbials use the grease, oil and pesticides in the system as their food. They eat and break it down into carbon dioxide."

With environmental issues revolving around nearly every activity in the maintenance shed, Eozyme said it's hoping that its system will strike a resonant chord with eco-savvy supers.

Jim Smith, assistant superintendent at Port Ludlow Golf Course in Port Ludlow, Wash., was working with a home-made system that created an uncontrolled contaminated area. Smith, realizing that he needed to make his wash rack more environmentally sound, decided to install a WaterStax.

"It's a lot more maintenance than we
MAT to continue manufacturing fiber mulch

FLOODWOOD, Minn. — MAT Inc. recently announced that it will continue to manufacture premium wood fiber mulch for hydroseeding following Weyerhaeuser’s closure of its Engineered Fiber Business after more than 30 years of operation.

MAT has manufactured 100 percent of Weyerhaeuser’s private-labeled Silva-Fiber and Silva-Blend branded product lines for the midwestern and eastern markets since 1988.

Joe Karpik, President of MAT, has appointed Ron Perez, a recently retired Weyerhaeuser employee, to head the sales and marketing activity in these markets.

The first truckloads of MAT Fiber produced under the new label were shipped to Barenbrug Seed Co. in Pittsburgh, Pa., and Flick Brothers Seed Co. in Kingsville, Mo.

E-Z-Go president joins CF board

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The Club Foundation (CF), the charitable arm of the Club Managers Association of America (CMAA) has added L.T. Walden Jr., President of Augusta, Ga.-based E-Z-Go Textron, to its Board of Governors.

Walden, a resident of Augusta, also serves as President of the National Golf Car Manufacturers Association and Executive Vice President of The Boys Club of Augusta, among other posts.

CF, which raises funds for educational opportunities for club managers, is in the midst of concluding its Campaign for Excellence, a capital campaign to create an educational endowment. The Textron Group, consisting of Jacobsen, Textron Financial Corp., Textron Specialty materials and E-Z-Go, was one of the first corporations to contribute to the campaign, pledging $100,000 in 1994.

Milorganite to boost research

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — Golf course superintendents can help support turfgrass research when they use organic Milorganite fertilizer this fall, according to Larry Lennert, manager of research and product development at Milorganite.

For each ton purchased and delivered between August 1 and November 30, 1997, Milorganite will donate $10 to the superintendent’s favorite turfgrass research organization. Milorganite and its distributors have long supported turfgrass research at the national level through the O.J. Noer Research Foundation, Lennert said. "The Turfgrass Research Donation Program enables Milorganite customers to support turfgrass research at the local level as well."

This is the third year that Milorganite has sponsored its Turfgrass Research Donation Program. In the first two years of the program, Milorganite donated nearly $40,000 to turfgrass research organizations across the U.S. and Canada.

CETCO APPOINTS LAPINSKI TO EUROPEAN POST

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, Ill. — Colloid Environmental Technologies Co. announced the appointment of Michael C. Lapinski to the position of managing director for CETCO Europe.

Lapinski, who will continue his current responsibilities as vice president of finance for CETCO, will replace Ryan McKendrick, who has been managing director of CETCO Europe for the past year. McKendrick will now refocus his attention on Asia.

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YOU GET ONLY ONE SHOT AT SNOW MOLD.
National Seal gets ISO, GAI OK

AUORRA, Ill. — The Quality Control Laboratory at National Seal Co.'s Galesburg, Ill., facility successfully passed an audit by TUV Rheinland of North America and was awarded ISO 9003 certification by Deutscher Akkreditierungs Rat (DAR-Germany).

"Having a quality system conforming to ISO 9003 gives us a strong edge in the world marketplace where certification is almost a prerequisite for doing business, especially in the European Community," said Lance Reed, quality assurance manager for National Seal, a manufacturer and installer of polyethylene lining and piping systems for waste and liquid containment.

The ISO 9000 series of standards was created by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) to simplify the international exchange of goods and services by developing a common set of quality requirements. ISO 9003 is the quality systems standard focusing on final inspection and testing of manufactured product.

NSC-Galesburg documented and demonstrated compliance to all sixteen elements in ISO 9003 including internal auditing, timeliness of corrective action, the handling of customer complaints, and a comprehensive laboratory calibration program.

National Seal's equipment applications include ponds, lagoons and reservoirs. The company's Quality Control lab also passed an audit by the Geosynthetics Accreditation Institute - Laboratory Accreditation Program (GAI-LAP).

GAI-LAP provides credibility to laboratories showing compliance with equipment and documentation for specific standard test methods. GAI-LAP also verifies that an effective quality system exists at all accredited laboratories.

Toro vs. G&H

Continued from page 1

According to Larry Buckley, Toro's attorney, "What we believe was stolen is the concept of the assembly; in turn, opening a great opportunity for a universal assembly based on the inside knowledge that Grizzle gained over his years at Toro."

At the end of November, 1996, Toro sought an injunction through the U.S. District Court in Los Angeles to remove certain Bear sprinkler products from the market until the time of trial. The Court denied Toro's injunction.

During the first week in June, 1997, Judge Takasugi released the Court's conclusion, stating that Toro did not have sufficient admissible evidence to support its claims that Grizzle & Hunter stole trade secrets.

"We're sitting in a good position right now," said Pam Wagner, an attorney from Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP, the law firm handling the case Grizzle & Hunter. "The main focus of this lawsuit wasn't so much about money as it was about Toro trying to put our client out of business. We already knew the judge found some problems with their evidence. But from our standpoint, the hearing in November 1996 was the most important case."

Like Wagner, Toro is also confident that its case has enough evidence to win at trial. "Toro has carefully considered the situation and made the decision that it must take protective action when Toro's proprietary technology and information is at risk," said Rick Parod, vice president and general manager of Toro's irrigation business. "Unless there's a delay or settlement, we'll be ready to go to trial on September 23," added Buckley.

Golf Ventures lands in Jupiter

LAKELAND, Fla. — Golf Ventures Inc. has opened its third regional service center. The new office, located in Jupiter, Fla., serves Indian River, Okeechobee, St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Broward and Dade Counties.

The new location services the golf course maintenance industry specifically and distributes Lykes Fertilizer, Helena Chemical, Lofots Seed, Ringer, PSA, Emerald Isle, Bio Turf Gro, Green Releaf and a number of other specialty products.

Staffing the Jupiter office will be representatives David Cheesman, Walt McMahon and Mike Bonetti. The office manager is Sue Sjosten. Sjosten has a number of years experience in the golf industry, including serving for four years as the administrative assistant in the Florida Regional office of the USGA Green Section.
Vermeer in Pella during its oldest operable machine.

Contest rules and registration are available at every North American Vermeer dealership where entries for the contest are being accepted until November 1, 1997. The winning machine and its owner will be present at Vermeer in Pella during the company’s 50th anniversary in 1998.

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"Establishing new bentgrass greens is a time consuming and costly process. This spring we put in 10 new greens at River Ridge with play targeted to start in early fall. We used PennMulch as a matching cover for the seed. The results were impressive. Not only was germination superior but PennMulch also stabilized the soil surface and was simple to apply. An unexpected benefit from using PennMulch was the retention of the sand base during the first mowing. The second phase of the construction will be completed later this spring and we have specified the use of PennMulch for the remaining greens. Quite simply, PennMulch provides the insurance I’ve been looking for!" — Tony King, Superintendent, River Ridge Golf Club, Raleigh, NC.

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**Toro training**

Continued from page 43
will allow hands-on servicing — the key, said Smith, to helping the curriculum stick.

"The purpose of this service facility is to replicate the actual work environment that service technicians encounter in the turf industry," said Smith. "We'll demonstrate practical application in a state-of-the-art service environment," he said. Course fees will vary depending on subject and number of sessions.

**GEESE! GEESE! GEESE!**

"Uses typically get about 30 gallons of grass per day," said Schuman. "We're having an extremely wet summer," said Smith, "so we're having a lot of grass. We have to keep a couple guys on it when we're doing a clean up." Smith said his crew is using the wash station three times a day due to the current wet conditions.

In the first tank resides a settling comb, a device that sifts sand, grit and heavy matter out of the water. The sediment-free water then moves into the second and third tank where the microbes, which are injected once a day, feast on the contaminants. "The water that goes through the system is then clean enough to be pumped back into irrigation ponds, sprinkler systems or sewer systems," said Schuman.

Smith's is being pumped back into the sewer system.

"Golf courses are starting to look at doing this more often," said Smith. "And it's only a matter of time when the EPA starts cracking down. But it's a great thing to do just to show your environmental stewardship since people still don't know what we do and how we do it. The system is up and running in more than 40 courses around the country. It's available for about $15,000."
Bayleton sports new packaging

Bayleton Fungicide is now available in a new formulation that offers the same broad-spectrum disease control in new, convenient packaging. Bayleton 50 Turf and Ornamental fungicide offers the convenience of mini-drum packaging with eighty-eight (88), 5.5 ounce PVA pouches per drum.

This new formulation provides the same consistent performance as Bayleton 55 at reduced application rates. Bayleton 50 controls, as well as prevents, many turf fungal diseases including dollar spot, brown patch, summer patch and other diseases on turf, flowers, foliage plants, shrubs and shade trees. Its systematic action offers lasting residual control of up to 30 days or more.

For more information contact Bayer Corp. at 816-242-2000.

Par Aide offers new club stand

Increase the functionality of your practice range while adding an extra measure of convenience for guests and members. Par Aide’s new golf bag stand keeps clubs accessible to players and prevents spilled clubs and unsightly golf bag “pile ups” on the practice range.

Standing 31½ high, the heavy gauge tubular steel bag stand secures to the ground with two 9” spikes. For more information contact Par Aide at 612-779-9851.

Huskie HD offers new features

The Huskie HD from Haul Master Inc., offers new heavy-duty features while maintaining the versatility of the original Huskie utility vehicle. Like the original Huskie, the Huskie HD features a 1,000-lb. dump box capacity, which is the largest in its class, yet is small enough to fit in a standard pickup bed for transport to job sites. A short turning radius (11.5 feet) and four-cycle, air-cooled 16 hp Briggs & Stratton engine hauls heavy-duty loads over almost any terrain. Transaxle drive, differential lock and 9 1/2” ground clearance improve operation in muddy fields or rocky terrain. Meanwhile, the automatic torque converter with Salisbury clutch, driven pulley, and heavy duty belt continuously sustain power and speed.

The Huskie HD also offers rack and pinion steering with adjustable tie rods and rugged A-frames. The front suspension features fully independent coil springs over heavy duty hydraulic shock absorbers, as well as five position spring force adjustment. For more information, contact Haul Master at 800-848-HAUL (4285).

Smithco re-engines Sweep Star

Smithco’s Sweep Star 60 dedicated turf sweeper has been re-engineered and improved to further increase its power, performance, comfort and safety of its operators. The new engine and the new features are standard and available on the new model.

The new-design Sweep Star 60 is now powered by a 25 HP Kohler Command OHV twin-cylinder gasoline engine, increasing its overall performance and its transport ground speed on all types of terrain. The Smithco-exclusive full-floating sweeping reel can now be engaged and operated at adjustable heights to better pick up wind-rows and piles. All four wheels have larger, high capacity, drum brakes and the rear wheels are now equipped with larger, softer, 24-1300x12 tires for the maximum protection of turf.

The sweeper’s filtration system utilizes washable, replaceable, polyester screens on both the front and rear hopper outlets, to remove 90% of the dust and dirt from the discharge. For more information, contact Smithco at 610-688-6009.

Bayleton adds Scoop & Spread

Earth & Turf adds Scoop and Spread

Earth & Turf announces the addition of the Scoop & Spread to its line of economical top dressers. Employing an exclusive design, the Scoop & Spread hopper tilts backward hydraulically and becomes a loader to scoop up topdressing material. The 15 cu. ft. hopper is constructed of welded 10 and 12 gauge steel giving integral strength while keeping the overall unit weight to a minimum. For loading, the hopper is rolled back by means of two standard 2.12 hydraulic cylinders. For more information, contact Earth & Turf at 888-685-2838.

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Par Aide offers new club stand

Par Aide offers new club stand

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GOLF COURSE NEWS

CIRCLE #135

CIRCLE #140

August 1997 49
and was twice named PGA Player of the Year (1966 and 1970). Eight times he played on the U.S. Ryder Cup teams and in 1979 was the non-playing captain.

Since reducing his playing time, the 66-year-old Casper has devoted increasing time to the course design firm Casper Nash & Associates, which he formed in 1986. From their Phoenix headquarters, he and partner Greg Nash have teamed on more than 60 mostly public-access golf courses, including nearly 27 for Del Webb's master-planned communities. The average golfer, he said, is his main target and he designs his courses "to be very flexible" and to "offer an enjoyable challenge to average players while still testing the limits of a scratch player's abilities."

Meanwhile, Billy Casper Golf Management Inc., formed in 1988, operates 16 facilities from the mid-Atlantic to Hawaii. A dozen of those properties are daily-fee exclusively or semi-private. Headquartered in Vienna, Va., the firm provides consultation services on the planning, development and construction of new courses, and offers complete turnkey management services to over 20 new and existing courses.

"We're thrilled to have Billy Casper headline our conference," said Golf Course News publisher Charles von Brecht. "He knows every side of the golf industry and has been admired for his character and integrity his entire career."

For more information about Public Golf Forum, call 207-846-0600.
When Smith retired in 1955, Mr. Zikorus [

HELP WANTED

Requests for Proposals for operation of Paradise Valley Golf Course and Rancho Solano Golf Course, two premier 18-hole municipal golf courses located in the City of Fairfield, California. Fairfield is a growing city of 90,000 located along Interstate 80, midway between San Francisco and Sacramento (approximately 40 miles from each city). RFP deadline date, September 15, 1997. For RFP information contact Patricia, (707) 428-7466.

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Shapers needed in Asia. Min. 5 yrs. experience. Send resume with references to World Golf Group, 9 Music Square S. #277, Nashville, TN 37203; or Fax: (615) 321-0384.

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When Smith retired in 1955, Mr. Zikorus took over the practice. He was a member of the American Society of Golf Course Architects in 1969.

Most of his work was in the Northeast and included new designs and renovations of all descriptions. Among the courses he designed are Tunxis Plantation Country Club CC in Farmington, Conn.; Twin Hills CC in Longmeadow, Mass.; Heritage Village Golf Course GC in Southbury, Conn.; and Timberline GC in Town of Berlin, Conn.

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November


4-6 — Penn State Golf Turf Conference in State College, Pa. Contact Peter Landschoot at 814-863-3475.

4-7 — Turf and Grounds Exposition in Syracuse, N.Y. Contact 800-873-8873.


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9-11 — Georgia Turfgrass Conference and Show in College Park. Contact Doug Moody at 770-975-4123.

11 — Massachusetts Recreation and Park Association State Conference in Sturbridge. Contact Carol Kilcove at 508-630-1128.

13-17 — Texas Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show in San Antonio.

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8 — Northeast Turf and Grounds Exposition in Albany, N.Y. Contact NYSTA at 800-873-8873.

19-23 — Club Managers Association of America World Conference in Las Vegas. Contact Tamara Tyrell at 703-739-9660.


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With debate on pesticide use inflaming the public and driving public policy, the golf industry has to face the issue, whether it wants to or not. And the result, according to Dr. Eric Nelson, is a future of turfgrass management dominated by "a highly technical, biologically based approach."

Nelson, of Cornell University, will lead a half-day session on Biological Controls Current Status and Future Prospects, which will highlight the 1997 Public Golf Forum, Oct. 27-28 at Oak Brook Hills Hotel and Resort here. Sponsored by Golf Course News, the Public Golf Forum is a national conference and show for superintendents, general managers, owners and developers of public-access courses.

The session on biological controls, from 1 to 5 p.m. Oct. 28, will climax the Maintenance track of the conference. Development and Marketing/Management tracks are also scheduled.

Nelson, who has done extensive research on biologicals, composting and other aspects of biological controls, will lead a three-speaker panel. Dr. Janet Anderson, director of the Environmental Protection Agency's Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division, will also speak, as will North Shore Country Club superintendent Dan Dinelli, who has been a part of several studies and field research projects pertaining to various biological controls, including the Bioject system.

Control of turfgrass pests and diseases is clearly headed in the direction of biologicals — for a lot of reasons," Nelson said. "There has been a lot of criticism about pesticide use on golf courses. A lot of superintendents want to do something with a biological control only to say to their membership, 'Look, we're trying to do things for the environment.' In other cases, they're truly interested in looking at biologicals to augment chemical applications. "You constantly have to be thinking about what is happening biologically in that soil. Every management practice that you implement must be done keeping the whole biology of the system in mind. It's probably a lot more labor-intensive. I've seen golf courses where they've been able to do it and they can maintain good quality. But I've never seen a course in a high-stress situation where they've been able to rely solely on biological practices."

"There are still many more questions than answers," said Dinelli from North Shore CC in Highland Park, Ill., adding that Nelson and Prof. Michael Boehm of Ohio State University are among "only a few researchers who have put in the effort to learn what can be applicable in the real world with biologicals and enhancing turf's ability to thrive and stand on its own."

The fact remains, Dinelli said, that "we have fewer and fewer products coming on the market, and anything we can do to enhance and minimize the use of those products, the longer they will continue to be effective. As a generalization, it's fairly well accepted that many of the pesticides we use are effective only so long. "Dollar spot has become immune to many of our fungicides. Many insecticides that were mainstays are no longer as effective as they were. Pathogens tend to build up resistance to many of these products. The resistant buildup will outgrow the products that might replace them. So now you have to use higher concentrations at tighter intervals and you become addicted to these materials on a continual downward spiral of products' effectiveness."

Biological controls can counter this spiral, Dinelli feels, if they are accepted that many of the pesticides use are effective only so long. "Dollar spot has become immune to many of our fungicides. Many insecticides that were mainstays are no longer as effective as they were. Pathogens tend to build up resistance to many of these products. The resistant buildup will outgrow the products that might replace them. So now you have to use higher concentrations at tighter intervals and you become addicted to these materials on a continual downward spiral of products' effectiveness."

Biological controls can counter this spiral, Dinelli feels, if they can make it into the marketplace. That point will be addressed by Anderson, who will speak on what biological-control products are in the pipeline; what the registration process involves and what EPA requires; the issue of efficacy because, typically, with conventional pesticides, federal EPA does not require efficacy; and federal versus state registration.

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