

## BRIEFS



# LOHMANN BREAKS GROUND ON EVANSVILLE PROJECT

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — Construction has begun here on Eagle Crossing Golf Club. The new 18-hole golf course and practice facility will be the focal point of the 270-acre Eagle Crossing subdivision. The golf course is being developed by BSH Development of Evansville and designed by Lohmann Golf Designs, Inc. of Marengo, Ill. Construction is being completed by BSH Development and Golf Creations of Marengo, Ill. The par-70 course will feature bentgrass greens with zoysiagrass collars, Bermudagrass tees and fairways, and fescue grass roughs. The golf course is scheduled for completion this fall, opening for play in the summer of 1998. The housing development began last summer and now features 84 of the 245 home sites for sale.

# VIOLA TO ADD NINE AT PINE KNOB GC

CLARKSTON, Mich. — A new nine holes are under construction here at Pine Knob Golf Course. The additional holes were designed by West Bloomfield architect Lorrie Viola, whose first solo effort in Michigan, The Timbers near Frankenmuth, opened last summer. She's also undertaking a renovation of Burning Tree Golf & Country Club in Macomb, two championship layouts in Ocala, Fla., and a nine-hole addition in Fairfield, Conn. Planned to intertwine with the existing 18, three of the new holes will wind their way along Lake Fleming, while the other six will offer the wildness of an Irish links course, Viola said. Seeding is expected to take place in June. The new nine will be open for play in 1998.

# C-D TO HANDLE MICH. RENOVATION

SHEPHERD, Mich. — The golf course design firm Conroy-Dewling Associates, Inc. will handle a renovation and extensive master plan here at Winding Brook Golf Club, according to President James R. Dewling. The renovation will continue this spring under the direction of head professional Tim Dawkins. Improvements will focus on the tees and drainage around a number of greens and fairways. Phase two, involving an updating and upgrading of the existing course, is expected launch this fall. The course will be available for play while improvements are underway.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

# Dye is cast for ASGCA

Alice takes gavel this month

When the American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) meets in Toronto, May 12-18, Alice Dye will succeed Denis Griffiths as its first female president. A design partner with her husband, Pete, since 1959, Alice has been a storied amateur state and national golfer as well as prime champion of forward tees in course architecture. When son Perry was accepted by the ASGCA last year, it meant the Dyes and both sons were ASGCA members — younger son P.B. having joined several years ago.

...

**Golf Course News:** What do you want to focus on during your term in office?

**Alice Dye:** We will continue all of the programs that Denis [Griffiths] started: stressing low-cost golf courses and the President's Award. We also want to improve speed of play and create a greater identity for the ASGCA Foundation so that the industry knows we are

Q  
& A



Alice (from left), Perry and Pete Dye conduct a site walk at Thai Muang G.C., a Dye Design in Thai Muang Beach, Thailand.



doing something in a special niche to help.

By building low-cost golf courses we can reduce the price of golf and keep it growing. The Pres-

ident's Award will be directed toward a specific project: this year Junior Golf. So many programs are so big that we can't make a particular contribution, so our foundation will center on some area that is pertinent to our organization where we can really be of help to the golf industry,

golfers, everyone. The Foundation has done some good work with research, and with a living history. We have videotaped about 20 old-time architects who are still living, telling their experiences and philosophies. People like Robert Trent Jones on tape, telling his philosophy — this will be invaluable 50 years from now.

The environmental book that [ASGCA member] Bill Love put together was wonderful. It required a lot of work and dedication, and it is information that only our organization can provide. But we're such

Continued on page 48



The contours catch and enhance patches of sun and shade at Keith Foster's Texas Star Golf Course and Conference Center in Euless.

# Foster set to unveil the Texas Star

EULESS, Texas — Hurricane Creek meanders by while century-old oak trees and an assortment of native grasses outline the fairways here on the newest design from Keith Foster, the city of Euless' Texas Star Golf Course and Conference Centre.

The facility, located in the heart of the Metroplex and 10 minutes from the Dallas/Fort Worth Airport, opens for play May 22.

The constant feature of the 287-acre site is Hurricane Creek, which winds

through a landscape of stacked rock ponds, waterfalls and hill country terrain.

The 7,000-yard track, constructed by Landscapes Unlimited of Lincoln, Neb., will play to a par of 71.

Sporting a spikeless golf shoe policy, the course will host The Collegiate Players Tour National Championship on Aug. 12-14.

The state-of-the-art conference center includes more than 5,000 square feet of divisible space.

# COMMENTARY

# With irrigation and alcohol, hard part is knowing when to stop

By DR. MICHAEL HURDZAN

Recently I had a discussion with perhaps the dean of club professionals, from one of the most distinguished and exquisitely manicured golf courses in America. We talked about, what else, Tiger Woods' prodigious length off the tee, and my friend offered that maybe it was time to bring back fairway cross bunkers that make the classic courses of the 1920s so popular and a great test of golf.

"Only then," he mused, "will par-5s stay three-shot holes and will 460-yard par-4s be more than a drive and short iron for the big hitters."

Personally, as a fan of cross bunkers, I applauded his observation, but we both realized that such hazards would most seriously frustrate the average and below-average golfer, make for slow play and add to maintenance costs.

I suggested there might be another strategic solution, which would actually more fairly increase the challenge of a golf course for all golfers, speed up play, reduce maintenance costs and make golf courses better neighbors to their surrounding environments. That idea was also a 1920s classic, but it was a product of technological depravation, not intelligent decision-making.

This big idea was — to turn off fairway irrigation.

Now my dear Mom taught me "all

Continued on page 42



## Hurdzan comment

Continued from page 39

things in moderation," so even if we do not turn off fairway irrigation, let's reduce it to the minimum amount necessary to keep the turf healthy... not green — healthy. Nearly every turfgrass manager I know believes that we water to excess only to provide that perfectly green sward de-

manded by their clients, customers or bosses.

In the Midwest it is not uncommon to use 1.5 to 2 million gallons of water per week on a fully irrigated 18-hole golf course — and almost that much each day in the desert Southwest. In many cases this might be twice the amount necessary to keep the turf healthy, although not verdant green and lush.

So if healthy turf will naturally go off-color during periods of high environmental stress, will golf then be less enjoyable? No, it will be more enjoyable.

I grew up on a public facility and much of what I fondly remember about golf there was attributable to the course having unwatered fairways and roughs. In particular, the second hole — a 500-yard par-

5. In the spring and fall the rain kept the clay soils moist and the turf lush. During these times, the hole required a driver, fairway wood and wedge to reach the green.

But in the driest part of the summer, when the ball would bounce and roll on landing, it could play as short as a driver and five iron. Between those two extremes, depending on the state of soil drying and the

wind, every combination of second shots was possible. Rarely did the hole even play the same two days in a row, so the golfer who could read those conditions and use them to his advantage, benefited. At times you could aim the ball far up into the right rough, knowing the ball would bounce off the dry hillside, cut off the dogleg, and end up back in the fairway. Had the fairway and/or rough been fully irrigated the hole would have probably only varied a club or two over the entire season.

Was golf less fun because the turf turned brown in the summer? Absolutely not — it was more fun, a greater challenge. With reduced mowing and fertilizing, it had less environmental impact. Dry turf is one of the most charming elements of European golf.

The point is, the wetter the playing condition, the greatest advantage will always go to the golfer who can carry the ball in the air the furthest. In the wet, just "grip and rip it." But in dry conditions, length off the tee is a combination of carry and roll, and the drier the turf, the more importance is placed on the roll which will ultimately determine the final stopping place for the ball. In other words, dry turf rewards the golfer who factors in the wind and places himself or herself in the most advantageous position for the next shot.

Today it seems too easy to over-water turf simply to ensure green grass. And so, for most golfers, it is expected but not appreciated. The old adage of "Today's luxury is tomorrow's necessity," is still true.

Can American golf ever be weaned from over-watering, or is water use more addictive than alcohol? I believe the answer is that even now most of us in the industry are taking every opportunity to reduce water use — because we know it is in the long-term best interests of the game. We begin by selecting appropriately adapted turfgrass cultivars and favoring those that are most drought tolerant.

Irrigation systems are being designed with water-saving features such as low-pressure, low-volume, low-angle heads directed by computers programmed with water-saving software. Site-specific irrigation head location and nozzling have replaced the old standard triangular or square spacing schemes and standard nozzles.

Soil amendments, both organic and inorganic, offer technological advances that, when used properly, can

Continued on next page

**THEY'LL BE A FORCE  
IN YOUR TEE BOX.**

**THEY'LL HAVE NO  
PROBLEMS PLAYING  
THROUGH YOUR ROUGH.**

**THEY'LL WORK YOUR  
FAIRWAYS LIKE PROS.**

**THEIR HUNGER FOR GOLF  
IS VORACIOUS.**

**THEY'RE  
GRUBS**

**AND IT'S TIME THESE  
LITTLE BUGGERS FIND  
A NEW SPORT.**

Tee Time®

Fertilizer with  
**MERIT®**the professional's  
partner®The  
Andersons

CIRCLE #128

**GRUBS  
WOULD  
LOVE TO  
SPEND THIS  
SEASON HACKING-AWAY AT  
YOUR GOLF COURSE.**



Tee Time® Fertilizer with MERIT® provides you with a premium formulation of the most effective season-long white grub control on the market today plus a granular turf fertilizer that allows you to maintain a green and grub-free course.

**A SINGLE APPLICATION  
PROVIDES MULTIPLE BENEFITS**

A single application prior to egg hatch protects all season long against grubs. Grubs however, aren't the only insects that MERIT® controls. A single spring application applied at peak adult activity also controls billbugs, bluegrass weevils, and mole crickets. The granule particle sizing allows for the uniform and effective distribution of both the fertilizer and MERIT® right where it needs to be.

**EFFECTIVE AND SAFE.**

**A WINNING COMBINATION!**

Tee Time® Fertilizer with MERIT® is remarkably effective and can give you residual soil insect control up to four months or longer in turf. And it has an exceptionally low application rate of only 0.3 pound of active ingredient per acre.

The lower environmental load of the insecticide's active ingredient means lower toxicity to workers, birds and fish when used as directed.

**THREE FORMULATIONS TO FIT YOUR  
SPECIFIC NEEDS**

Tee Time® Fertilizer with MERIT® comes in three different formulations to control grubs wherever they threaten your turf.

- 18-0-18 WITH 50% SCU & 0.2% MERIT®
- 10-4-24 WITH 50% NUTRALENE® & 0.2% MERIT®
- 18-3-18 WITH 80% NUTRALENE® & 0.2% MERIT®

**TEE TIME® FERTILIZER WITH  
MERIT® CONTROLS GRUBS  
BEFORE THEY BECOME PLAYERS  
ON YOUR COURSE.**

The  
Andersons

Contact your nearest distributor  
or call 1-800-225-ANDY to order  
Tee Time® Fertilizer with MERIT®.



## Hurdzan & Fry chosen for #2 at Coeur d'Alene

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho — Until now the golf course here has been known for its trademark floating green, dreamed up and implemented by Scott Miller. But now a second course is planned.

There will be no floating greens, but the as yet unnamed golf course promises rock cliffs, huge trees and views from 250 feet above the lake. Hurdzan/Fry Golf Course Design will lay out the course for Arrow Point Development Co.

"I feel the site is one of the most spectacular in North America," Fry said. "Given the location and the willingness of our clients to make the golf course the best it can be, Arrow Point at Coeur d'Alene has the potential to be ranked among the Top 100 in the U.S."

## Hurdzan comment

Continued from previous page  
conserve root-zone water.

Design, construction and maintenance techniques such as modified target golf, zonal planting and plant growth regulators are all contributing to lessen the amount of water applied to turfgrass while keeping it in a healthy state. Our goal is total sustainability of using only recycled water. This goal may be as unobtainable as finding a perpetual motion device, but we must try. Currently we are just scratching the surface of genetic engineering, subsurface irrigation, improved root-zone amendments and even best-management practices. But it takes forward-thinking turfgrass managers and open-minded field experimentation to prove their applicability and economic viability.

The only serious limitation to continuing success is the cooperative understanding of golfers to tolerate less-than-green grass. Golfers in America are clearly addicted to playing conditions achievable only by using more water than is necessary for healthy turfgrass. The first step in breaking any bad habit is to recognize there is a problem, then change attitudes or lifestyles appropriately.

Let's hope that breaking overindulgence of over-watering is easier than that for alcohol.

*Michael Hurdzan is a Columbus, Ohio-based course architect and a member of the Golf Course News Editorial Advisory Board. The above column is his first in a semi-regular series.*

GOLF COURSE NEWS

## McCumber breaks ground on Jersey project

MANALAPAN, N.J. — McCumber Golf and the course design firm of Mark McCumber & Associates of Jacksonville, Fla., have undertaken the building of Knob Hill Golf Course here.

Construction is already underway at the 18-hole, par-70 facility. The upscale daily-fee development is expected to open a

year from now, in July 1998.

McCumber, a PGA Tour player, has laid out a course with dramatic elevation changes that uses water on several holes. McCumber Golf is the construction manager and shaper for the course.

...

In other McCumber & Associates news,

the firm is working on GreyStone Golf Club in Dickson, Tenn. The project is under construction.

Its TPC at Heron Bay in Coral Springs, Fla. — another McCumber product — recently opened and is host of the PGA Tour's 1997 Honda Classic.

In addition, McCumber's firm is designing the second of four courses planned for Del Webb's Sun City Hilton Head in Bluffton, S.C.



WHEN YOU HAVE TO SUIT UP AND SPRAY,  
'INFERNO' WOULD BE THE NICEST WORD FOR A DAY LIKE THIS.



Toro Multi Pro 5500 with new air-conditioned cab.

**UNTIL NOW.** The world's best sprayer just became the coolest. The Toro Multi Pro® 5500 now comes with an optional air-conditioned cab and a charcoal filtering system that allows cleaner, cooler air to circulate throughout the cab. So spraying even in the worst heat and humidity is a breeze. You can even add the cab to a Multi Pro® 5500 you already have. For more information see your local Toro Distributor, or visit our website at [www.toro.com](http://www.toro.com).

**TORO**

*It's about*

CIRCLE #129



© 1997 The Toro Company, 8111 Lyndale Avenue South, Bloomington, Minnesota 55420.