BRIEFS

ENVIRONMENTAL CARE PROMOTES PAIR
CALABASAS, Calif. — Environmental Care Inc. recently promoted David Hanson to director of West Coast operations for ECI’s golf maintenance division and Barry Troutman to manager of technical support for East Coast operations. Hanson, who has 28 years experience in the green industry, will oversee technical operations for courses throughout California, Arizona and Texas. Troutman, a past president of the Georgia Turfgrass Association, will manage ECI’s technical programs for fertility, weed and pest control. ECI is a leading provider of landscape management, irrigation, arborist and horticultural contract services to commercial clients, including 22 golf courses nationwide.

GOLF TRUST REPORTS EARNINGS
CHARLESTON, S.C. — Golf Trust of America Inc., a self-administered real estate investment trust, reported second-quarter Funds from Operations (FFO) of $3.5 million, or 43 cents per share on revenue of $3.9 million, compared to pro forma FFO of $2.8 million, or 30 cents per share, on pro forma revenue of $2.8 million for the prior year’s second quarter. The increase in FFO per share of 43 percent is due primarily to the addition of two courses in Virginia that opened in summer 1996. “The Company’s second-quarter results demonstrate that there is great opportunity for growth in the upscale golf course industry, which is the focus of our business plan,” said Brad Blair, president and chief executive officer.

PRESCOTT LAKES PICKS WESTERN GOLF
SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Bill Brownlee and Jeff Davis, principals of The M3 Companies, have named Western Golf Properties, Inc. as the management group for The Country Club at Prescott Lakes in Prescott. The community will include the country club, which features an 18-hole, Hale Irwin-designed championship course and traditional clubhouse with a separate fitness, tennis, and swim complex.
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afternoon as I sat at my desk doing paperwork. One of my employees bolted into my office to announce that there was a fight in the basement between two of my golf car boys. A fight, mind you, a fist fight between two employees who had never displayed aggressive behavior period, much less a history of fighting.

Well, out the door and down the ramp we went, running all the way. As we entered the basement, to my shock and dismay, there they were, slugging it out. I immediately demanded they stop fighting and stepped in to break them up (In retrospect, that could have been a bad move). To my amazement, they stopped fighting and just stood there bloody, with shirts torn.

I marched them upstairs to my office to get to the bottom of the problem. Once seated across from each other, the questioning began. I had no idea where I was going with all this. I just seemed to be working on instinct.

After a few minutes, as the two sides of the story began to unravel, it became apparent that these two guys had been having trouble for some time and some small incident in the basement pushed one of the boys over the edge. OK, so what now? Do I fire them both for this behavior? Do I fire the one I think is the guilty party? Or do I do something else?

After a considerable amount of deliberating, I began to, well, lecture them on why fighting was not exactly the best way to settle disputes, especially not at the workplace. Then I explained that I really wasn't sure if I had the right to fire them for fighting on the job, but I decided I wouldn't do it if I

I made the best decisions have been the times in which I have been patient and slow to react. Please, I implore you, try not to react too quickly to circumstances. Take some time and get enough information to make a good decision. I've acted differently than this at times in my life and I have lived to regret it. I think I should reread the book of Solomon once a month. It's gotta help. What do you think?

Standard purchases three Massachusetts golf properties

PHOENIX — Starwood Lodging Trust, a leading hotel real-estate investment trust, and Starwood Lodging Corp., a hotel management and operating company, have announced an agreement to acquire a portfolio of 15 full-service hotels, including four golf courses, from the Flatley Co./Tara Hotels for $470 million.

The golf courses are located on three Massachusetts properties and include:

- Tara's Ferncroft Conference Resort in Danvers. The 367-room resort is situated on nearly 325 acres of land and includes two golf courses.
- Tara Hyannis Hotel & Resort in Hyannis. The 224-room Hyannis Hotel & Resort is located in the business district and boasts an 18-hole golf course.
- Colonial Hilton & Resort in Lynnfield. The 280-room hotel has an 18-hole course.

Standard's Drag Brush with extensions — the easier way to healthier greens.

Many course superintendents have discovered how valuable the Standard Drag Brush is for keeping greens healthy and looking good. For light topdressing applications, it gently works and vibrates the material into the green without tearing the surface like drags sometimes can. Also, pulling the brush over the green before mowing helps make the runners stand up for a clean even cut and helps to control thatch. The drag brush is also excellent for maintaining ball diamonds or clay tennis courts.

For more information or the names of your nearby Standard Golf distributors, call or write: Standard Golf Company, P.O. Box 68, Cedar Falls, IA 50613, U.S.A., 319-266-2638, FAX 319-266-9627.

Extensions help get the job done faster! Extensions can be added to any new or existing Standard Drag Brush and a single set will double your work width. Extensions are hinged to float over uneven surfaces or to flip up if not needed.