SAHALEE STAFF BUILDS WEB SITE
SEATTLE, Wash. — With the 80th PGA Championship three months away, the Sahalee Country Club maintenance staff has developed a web site on the Internet: www.sahalee.com.

"The entire ... staff has worked very hard on the web site," said superintendent Tom Wolff. "We know this is going to be a great experience for all of us, hosting a major championship, and it was the feeling of the crew that many people would be interested in the comprehensive information listed on the web site."

The site covers history, staff, the 1998 updates on cultural and pest activity, is heard by calling 800-226-4476 (4IPM). The phone message can be listened to for 2 minutes by entering "969." The Sahalee Club provides weekly regional turf, landscape and a fact sheet. Wolff can be called at 425-868-1600.

PGMS, GREEN EXPO PLANNED
NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The 1998 Conference of the Professional Grounds Management Society (PGMS), coupled with the Green Industry Expo, is planned for Nov. 14-17 at the Opryland Hotel and Convention Center here. Fifty educational sessions are planned. For more information, people may contact PGMS headquarters at 120 Cockeyesville Rd., Suite 104, Hunt Valley, Md. 21030; telephone 410-584-9754.

PEST ACTIVITIES A CALL, OR FAX AWAY
AMHERST, Mass. — The University of Massachusetts Extension's Landscape Message, a toll-free phone message which provides weekly regional updates on cultural and pest activity, is now available in a Faxed version. The Extension reports that subscribers will receive about 20 messages per year, including weekly during the growing season and monthly in the off-season. More information is available by calling 413-545-0895. The phone message can be heard by calling 800-226-4476 (4IPM).

HOLLEMBEAK GETS CREDIT
SUGAR GROVE, Ill. — In May's page 1 story on Rich Harvest Links, the reporter neglected to mention that Hollembek Construction, Inc. of Big Rock built the first 11 holes of Jerry Rich's 18-hole estate course. A member of the Golf Course Builders Association of America, Hollembek did all the earthwork and shaping, except the irrigation, on those 11 holes. Ryan Inc. Central of Janesville, Wis., built the last seven holes.

MAINTENANCE

BRIEFS

K-STATE'S PIONEERING CURRICULUM TO START SUPERINTENDENTS ON ROUTE TO MANAGEMENT

K-State's pioneering curriculum to start superintendents on route to management

By Mark Leslie

MANHATTAN, Kan. — A new breed of college curriculum, one that opens management avenues to future golf course superintendents, will begin with construction of a prototype Tournament Players Club (TPC) university course at Kansas State University here.

Colbert Hills Golf Course, named for PGA Senior Tour player Jim Colbert, will be many things to many people. "The positive impact of this project will be far-reaching," said Stephen Mona, chief executive officer of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSSA), "a golf management program to train tomorrow's leaders, a research facility to aid the golf industry, and a first-class facility for golf enthusiasts..."

It will provide "unique research and academic opportunities for K-State researchers and students," said Bob Krause, K-State's vice president for institutional advancement.

"We have the opportunity to make something very special happen — something that will have a lasting impact on the world of golf and enhance the golf program at the university where I began my career," said Colbert, who donated $500,000 and raised millions from friends toward the $10 million facility.

"The university will use the course to train turf students how to manage, so that they can aspire upwards if they want," said Jeff Brauer of GolfScapes in Arlington, Texas, who is designing the course.

The 8th hole at Cedarbrook Golf & Country Club.

Canada's new president sets goals for profession

By Peter Blais

Becoming the 30th president of the Canadian Golf Superintendents Association (CGSA), mowing the 18th green at St. Andrews, marrying a wonderful woman and having a family — these are goals recently elected CGSA President Doug Meyer has met.

Hosting a major tournament, helping groom Augusta National in preparation for the Masters, building and growing in a new course, and making certain the CGSA's national conference continues moving across the country allowing more superintendents to become involved with their national association are goals Meyer hopes to achieve.

"Being part of this organization is a great honor and I look forward to representing the CGSA in the most professional way I can," Meyer said.

Meyer's entry into the superintendent field blossomed from an appreciation of the outdoors he gained during his upbringing on his parents' dairy farm in LaChute, Quebec. Following the lead of his two brothers-in-law, one a golf pro and the other a turf industry student, he left agriculture and at age 16 got his first golf course job on former CGSA President Tom Johnson's summer grounds crew at Carling Lake Golf Club in Pine Hill, Quebec.

Johnson became young Meyer's mentor and the newly elected CGSA president decided to make the golf business his career.

Meyer enrolled at Guelph University, studied turf management worked summers at Cuten Club in Guelph and later as a university research technician under retired professor and former dean Clay Switzer. He graduated with an associates degree in turfgrass science and eventually earned additional degrees in horticulture and a Turf Management Short Course degree from Guelph.

After a brief fling helping run the family dairy farm, Meyer accepted the post of superintendent at Cedarbrook Golf & Country Club in Ste. Sophie in 1975. He has remained at the private club ever since.

Canadian scientists shed light on roots and microbes

By Peter Blais

Roots and microbes is a marriage made in heaven that can only lead to healthier putting surfaces, according to a study funded by the Canadian Turfgrass Research Foundation (CTRF).

The CTRF is a coalition of the Royal Canadian Golf Association, Canadian Golf Superintendents Association and seven regional turfgrass foundations. With matching government grants, the coalition raised $768,000 between 1993-97 and funded 10 projects at five different Canadian universities and facilities.

Dr. Brian Holl of the University of British Columbia was one of three researchers who discussed their projects during the recent CGSA annual conference in Calgary. Holl's speech was titled "Life in the Underworld — Roots and Microbes."

"On greens," Holl said, "we take the photosynthetic area and cut it down as close as possible to the ground without killing the plant. Then we hit it with a bunch of white projectiles every day. We give people spiked shoes and tell them to walk all over that minimal photosynthetic area."

"The amazing thing is that superintendents are able to keep the stuff alive at all." Researchers and superintendents are so concerned about the actual putting surface, that they often forget what goes on below the surface, in the roots. "We want to..."
Meyer leads Canada’s supers

Continued from page 17

He was president of the Quebec Golf Superintendents Association in 1984-85 and became Quebec director of the Canadian Golf Superintendents Association in 1991. He is a master superintendent in Canada and a certified golf course superintendent with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. Meyer is married to two children, David and Karen. Meyer has done some design at Cedarbrooke. He reconstructed the bunkers and added a pond on the par-3 8th hole. "It was the most boring hole on the course, but is now our signature hole," he said. He has also naturalized many areas to be more environmentally friendly and adding color.

Meyer has also sought to educate local groups, especially children, about the environmental benefits of his course and golf. He invited a group of school children to the course, had the assistance of each of their free golf lesson, and gave each child some balls and a free club from the club's lost and found.

During the winter, Meyer went to the school, provided the students with materials to build bird houses for bluebirds (a species that had not appeared at the course before), and had the students return to install them during the summer. "The project was very successful," he said. "We had the kids put their names on each bird house. Then my wife went out each week, took notes on the number of eggs and sent the information back to let them know how successful their houses were."

Being a Quebec native, Meyer is naturally a National Hockey League fan. "Two years ago, I got an emergency phone call at home at 1 p.m. on a Sunday afternoon," Meyer recalled. "It was Claude Lemieux of the Avalanche. He said he had (Avalanche goalie) Patrick Roy and another friend who wanted to play. I told him to come on over around 3 p.m. and maybe I'd play nine holes with them. So, they show up in the parking lot and the other friend was Fred Couples. We had a great time. We went out to supper that night and then went over to Patrick Roy's house. Fred Couples put on Patrick's goalie pads and we went downstairs and started shooting pucks at Fred Couples. You never know who you're going to meet in this business."

Although not of Couples' caliber, Meyer is an accomplished golfer, having represented his country at four Ransomes International cups and one Hayter Cup. During a recent speech in Calgary, Meyers said that becoming involved in the Canadian association has afforded him the opportunity to travel and play golf. "One of my dreams as a superintendent was to cut the 18th green at St. Andrews," he said, pointing to a slide on a screen behind him. "That's me at 5:30 in the morning, cutting that green."

Another international event, El Nino, had a major effect on Meyer's course this winter. Quebec was hit with a major ice storm in early January that left some people without electrical power for a month or more. But being from a country that has spawned such famous comedians as Howie Mandel, John Candy and Rich Little, Meyer was able to see the funny side. "Most of the maple trees had their tops snapped off, the canopies were gone," he noted. "It was a great chance for superintendents to get rid of trees that were giving them shade problems around their greens."