BRIEFS

BRANCH GEORGIA'S SUPER OF YEAR
COLUMBUS, Ga. — Don Branch of Bankhead County Golf Club here was recently presented the Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association's 1998 Superintendent of the Year Award. He received the honor at the annual Georgia Golf Hall of Fame banquet.

GCSC ELECTS MAIBUSCH
BATAVIA, Ill. — The Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents has elected Robert Maibusch president of the association. Maibusch is the superintendent at Hinsdale Golf Club in Clarendon Hills. Maibusch succeeds outgoing President Kevin Czerkies of Sportsman's Country Club in Northbrook. Vice president for 1999 is Don Ferreri, superintendent at Seven Bridges Golf Club. Brian Bossert of Bryn Mawr Country Club was elected secretary-treasurer. Elected to two-year terms as directors were Kevin DeRoo of Bartlett Hills Golf Club in Northbrook. Vice president for 1999 is Don Ferreri, superintendent at Seven Bridges Golf Club. Brian Bossert of Bryn Mawr Country Club was elected secretary-treasurer. Elected to two-year terms as directors were Kevin DeRoo of Bartlett Hills Golf Club in Clarendon Hills. Maibusch succeeds outgoing President Kevin Czerkies of Sportsman's Country Club in Northbrook. Vice president for 1999 is Don Ferreri, superintendent at Seven Bridges Golf Club. Brian Bossert of Bryn Mawr Country Club was elected secretary-treasurer. Elected to two-year terms as directors were Kevin DeRoo of Bartlett Hills Golf Club and Fred Behnke of Mount Prospect Golf Club.

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NO SOLUTION IN SIGHT
By DR. ERIC K. NELSON
The 1998 gray leaf spot epidemic on perennial ryegrass and tall fescue has raised this previously little-known turf disease to a high level of respect from golf course superintendents and other turfgrass professionals who have witnessed its devastating effects.

Those responsible for developing turfgrass specifications for new golf course construction or renovation projects should be aware of the risk of planting straight perennial ryegrass, or seed mixtures where it predominates, and adjust future recommendations accordingly.

Since “Pennfine” perennial ryegrass was first released under Plant Variety Protection status in the early 1970s and the subsequent proliferation of hundreds of new cultivars, some turf managers have been lulled into believing that perennial ryegrass is easy, inexpensive and invincible as a permanent monostand of turf.

Leaf blowing all day with auxiliary tank
By TERRY BUCHEN
PARAMUS, N.J. — Faced with the frustration of their leaf blower running out of gas every 1-1/2 hours, superintendent Todd W. Raisch and his crew at The Ridgewood Country Club here found an easy solution.

Equipment manager Ronny Cestaro hooked up a portable six-gallon auxiliary fuel tank, similarly used for outboard motors, with a hand-operated bulb-type fuel primer.

The Giant Vac Leaf & Debris Blower, which has its own gasoline-powered engine with an electric start off its own battery, is bolt-mounted to the flatbed attachment on a three-wheel Cushman Turf Truckster.

“We've had great results,” said Cestaro.

GOLF AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Traveling the wildlife highways
By RON DODSON
In our daily human lives, we travel to a variety of places for a variety of reasons — to work, the grocery store, meetings and social gatherings, and to and from our homes. Some of us even travel from place to place on a golf course — down the fairways by cart or by foot from tee to green. Depending on the purpose of our travel, we use different modes of transportation and different routes.

Wildlife travels as well. Instead of sidewalks, roads and highways, they use their own network of paths and trails. Like humans, their routes depend on the purpose and destination of their travel. They may travel from a thicket of woods to find a pond or stream for water to drink. Continued on page 25

The pond buffer on the 16th hole at River Run Golf Course in Berlin, Md.