

BRIEFS



**PTC AWARDS \$175,000 FOR RESEARCH**

The Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council has announced allocation of funds to Penn State for the 1998-99 fiscal year. The \$175,000 research grant brings to almost \$2.5 million the council has donated to Penn State over the years. The funds will support research projects in the departments of agronomy, entomology, and plant pathology. It will also support eight scholarships and awards granted to undergraduate and graduate students.



**PA. SCHOOLS SIGN AGREEMENT**

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — Penn State University's two-year Golf Course Turfgrass Management Program has worked out an articulation agreement with Penn College of Technology which allows all graduates of the two-year turf program to complete an associate degree. Penn College of Technology is a Penn State affiliate located in Williamsport. The agreement allows any certificate program graduate to continue studies at the Williamsport campus. By completing two semesters and required classes, the student would be awarded an associate degree in landscape technology with an emphasis in turfgrass management. For further information, contact Rich Weilminster at Penn College at 717-320-8038, extension 3534, or George Hamilton at Penn State at 814-865-3007.



**PURDUE GETS \$146,000**

INDIANAPOLIS — At the Midwest Turf Expo here, the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation (MRTF), whose mission is to support turfgrass research and education at Purdue University, presented a check to the Purdue Department of Agronomy for \$146,000 for annual support of the turfgrass program, and an additional check for \$100,000 to help complete the W.H. Daniel Turfgrass Research and Diagnostic Center. Steve Frazier of the Links Group was given the 1999 Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor given by the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation. The award is presented to an individual who has gone above and beyond the call of duty for the turf industry of Indiana. Next year's Turf Expo will be held Jan. 18-20 in Indianapolis. For more information, contact 765-494-8039.

**New England Turf Show presents solutions**

Take-all patch may have met its match, says Rutgers professor

By ANDREW OVERBECK

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — After three years of research, Dr. Bruce Clarke of Rutgers University has developed a new approach managing take-all patch that introduces new management practices, and recommends properly timed and rotated cultural practices.

Since identifying *gaevmannomyces graminis* in the Pacific Northwest in the late 1970s, superintendents on bentgrass golf courses have struggled to control what they commonly call take-all patch. The perennial root disease, which is identified by large doughnut-shaped patches of damaged turf, is especially difficult to combat because by the time symptoms are evident, the disease has been present for six to eight weeks.

Knowing that, however, is one of the keys to controlling take-all

Continued on page 14



Pebble Beach's safety program reduces on-course accidents

By ANDREW OVERBECK

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Working with the theory that every accident could have been prevented, Pebble Beach Vice President of Resource Management Ted Horton has developed a workplace safety program he feels every golf course could use.

"You must have the mindset that every single accident could have been prevented and that you as the superintendent have the opportunity to prevent them," Horton told an audience at the New England Turfgrass Conference and Show here.

His latest program, STOP for Safety, emphasizes observation skills on the part of superintendents and works to improve communication between superintendents and their employees.

"This program ensures that the entire workforce will be

Continued on page 15

**Baker's Dozen:**

Young crew keeps The Links atop pack

By TERRY BUCHEN

WILLISTON (RAY), N.D. — Nicole Baker once rode her horse on this land, enjoyed picnics here, grew up. Today she may be the youngest golf course superintendent in the country, charged with maintaining the standards of a golf course named No. 2 Best New Affordable Course in the country when it opened in 1996, and striving to establish her place in a man-dominated profession.



"Some people were skeptical that a 21-year-old woman superintendent with a 19-year-old assistant could do the job," Baker said. "But with our previous experience and what my assistant, Cory Anderson, calls 'a young course with young minds,' we have prevailed with good success."

Indeed, The Links retains its ranking



The 8th hole, a par-3 with a backdrop of the North Dakota Buttes.



as No. 1 in North Dakota, and, in 1998, was given a 4-1/2 by *Golf Digest* in its listing of Places To Play.

"There was pressure from Day One to keep the course's ranking up as we were rated No. 2 Best New Affordable

Course in the country in 1996 by *Golf Digest*," Baker said.

How does a young leadership continue such high standards?

Continued on page 16



Chad Wilson, from Iowa State University, disassembles an irrigation head during the year-end Intern Olympics at Country Club of the Rockies.

**Finish the season with an Intern Olympics**

By KEVIN ROSS

EDWARDS, Colo. — Many golf course operations have developed strong internship programs through various turf universities throughout the United States and abroad. We host four interns per season at Country Club of the Rockies. The interns become a valuable part of our management team. Our club benefits greatly from their dedication and willingness to learn.

At the end of their internship — usually late-August — we have a final staff barbecue. During this barbecue, we have what is now known as the Intern Olympics. The interns perform three events and other staff members judge or score the events.

The first event, the Irrigation Head Challenge, is to disassemble, then reassemble an irrigation head. Each intern is timed, then judged for proper assembly.

The second event is the Hose Reel Challenge. The interns are required to sit on a utility vehicle at the start, then go to a hose reel, hook it into a quick coupling, roll the hose out 75 feet, fill a 5-gallon pail completely, then roll the hose back up and disconnect the QC. This event is also

Continued on page 18

## Piller assumes Canadian reins

TORONTO — Dean Piller, superintendent of Cordova Bay Golf Course in Victoria, British Columbia, was elected as president of the Canadian Golf Superintendents Association during the 50th Canadian International Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show here.

Also elected were Vice President Merlin Affleck of Stanhope Golf and Country Club (G&CC) in Stanhope, PEI; Secretary-Treasurer and Alberta Director Jay Leach of Cottonwood G&CC in Dewinton, AB; British Columbia Direc-

tor Jim McGarvey of Seymour G&CC in North Vancouver, BC; and Saskatchewan Director Bill Radke of Candle Lake (SK) Golf Course.

Continuing two-year terms are:

- Ontario Director William Fach of York Downs G&CC in Unionville, ON;
- Quebec Director Tim Harkness of Club de Golf Le Royal Bromont in Bromont, QC; and
- Manitoba Director Ian Martinusen of Breezy Bend Country Club in Headingly, MB.

Jim Nix of Abercrombie Country Club, New Glasgow, NS, was appointed Atlantic director to finish Affleck's term.

## Delhi students cited

DELHI, N.Y. — Two golf/turf management majors at Delhi College have been awarded scholarships by the Duke Polidor Foundation.

Robert McClay of Wawarsing and Ryan Daly of Cato are recipients of \$1,500 scholarships from the Somer-based foundation.

This marks the second consecutive year that Delhi students have

been selected for this honor, according to Dominic Morales, professor and department chair.

The scholarships honor the memory of Duke Polidor, a University of Massachusetts student who became superintendent at Fairview Country Club in New Jersey. An annual tournament is the principal fund-raiser for the foundation's scholarship program and the event is organized by John Currie, a 1967 Delhi graduate.

## Baker home & glad of it

Continued from page 13

"Our seasonal staff of 11 averages 18 years of age," Baker said, "and we work well together. There is less power distance between us and they feel comfortable to come to me with suggestions."

Baker grew up about a half mile from the property where course now sits — "land that our family used to rent for pasturing cows," she said.

She has many memories of growing up here: Getting bucked off her horse by hole 10, having picnics under the big trees between holes 5 and 6. Her favorite hole? No. 3, which used to be the local garbage dump but which has been completely cleaned up.

When she graduated from high school in 1994, construction started on the course and she worked for The Links as a summer job in 1995 and 1996.

*'Even with all the pressures, I wouldn't trade this job for anything.'*

Two months before graduating with honors from North Dakota State University in 1998, with a major in horticulture and a minor in business administration, Baker accepted the assistant superintendent position at The Links. But three weeks later the superintendent resigned and course officials offered her the job.

"I gladly accepted it," she said. But then she had to make a quick phone to hire Anderson as her assistant and help out until she graduated.

Baker and her crew installed a fertigation system that has improved the course's turf quality 500 percent, she said, by using two applications of a 28-0-0.

"It was like the Jolly Green Giant came and painted everything green," she said. "We also put out two applications of a 10-34-0 to get our phosphorus levels up."

"Even with all the pressures, I wouldn't trade this job for anything," Baker said. "I love it here and it's beautiful."

GOLF COURSE NEWS



# Move to Kubota Country

Move to Kubota country and you'll find versatility, durability and operator comfort. The Kubota B-Series (13 to 18 PTO horsepower) tractors are compact to fit in tight places and powerful to get lots of jobs done. Kubota performance matched implements include rotary tillers, front loaders, mid and rear mount mowers, boxscrapers and snowblower.

Need more power? Move up to the innovative Grand L-Series (25 to 37 PTO horsepower). Hydrostatic steering, shuttle transmission with shift-on-the-go provides ease of operation. Kubota's exclusive optional Glideshift transmission has clutchless operation through all eight speeds, forward and



reverse. These tractors are smooth and quiet, with Kubota's E-TVCS engine which ensures clean emissions while providing high torque rise. Get one with an integral cab with heat and air-

conditioning for year 'round comfort.

Visit your Kubota dealer and find out how to make your move — to Kubota country!



For more information, please write to:

**Kubota**

KUBOTA TRACTOR CORPORATION

P.O. Box 2992, Dept. GCN

Torrance, CA 90509-2992

or call Toll Free 1-888-4 KUBOTA ext. 407

(1-800-458-2682 ext. 407)

Financing available through Kubota Credit Corporation

