Hurricane Floyd leaves its mark on Carolinas

BY PETER BLAIS

WILMINGTON, N.C. — Hurricane Floyd and the heavy rains that followed in mid-September left numerous courses submerged and forced many to close for a month or more. Floyd came ashore here Sept. 13. The Wilmington area was hit full force by the hurricane, but escaped the worst of the floods, according to Joey Hines, head pro at Cape Fear Country Club.

“Nearly 33 inches of rain, but never flooded to the point many other courses did,” Hines said. “Anything from Wallace to Kenaston to Greenville was badly flooded. The perimeter roads leading into and around Wilmington were washed out. But Wilmington did not have real bad floods.”

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Development management new to the golf industry

BY MARK LESLIE

PALM DESERT, Calif. — From the blades of grass on the golf course to the depth of the sewers on the streets of a development, Winchester Development Co. controls what it does as no other company does. Indeed, Winchester is a new breed of company, defining a previously undefined niche: development management.

“We know where everything goes on a golf course project,” said Craig Bryant, co-managing partner with John Shaw of Winchester, which has offices here, in

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Supers benefit as outsourcing grows

BY ANDREW OVERBECK

Using outsourcing for various tasks is becoming increasingly attractive to superintendents and golf course operators across the country. Independent contractors can often out-perform the regular maintenance staff in specialized tasks like fertilizer applications and aerification or relatively simple jobs like maintaining the clubhouse grounds. More and more superintendents are employing these services because it saves time, manpower and maintenance costs and provides access to specialized services and new technology that were previously out of reach.

“Outsourcing jobs means there is one more headache that superintendents don’t have to worry about,” said Terry Buchen, president of Terry Buchen Golf Agronomy International, a consulting firm based in Williamsburg, Va. “They can make more use of their existing crew. For

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Comment starts on chlorpyrifos

BY ANDREW OVERBECK

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has released its initial risk assessment for chlorpyrifos, an organophosphate commonly used in turf and ornamental applications and known to the golf course industry as Dursban. Under the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) of 1996, the EPA is systematically reassessing numerous classifications of pesticides

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