DeYoung joins Glen Arbour

BEDFORD, Nova Scotia, Canada — Mike DeYoung, president of the Canadian Golf Superintendent's Association in 1996, has taken the position as head superintendent at the newly built Glen Arbour Golf Course here. DeYoung left Harden Point Golf Club in Eastern Passage after 17 years. A 1978 graduate of St. Mary's University, he was president of the Atlantic Golf Superintendents Association in 1991-92.

Glen Arbour, designed by Canadian Graham Cooke, opened for play in July.

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SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — Vincent Gilmartin has been appointed to the new position of golf course superintendent at Glen Annie Golf Club here by Environmental Golf. Prior to joining Environmental Golf, Gilmartin was superintendent at Franklin Delano Roosevelt Golf Club in Philadelphia, and assistant superintendent at Strawberry Farms Golf Club in Irvine, Calif., and Inwood (N.Y.) Country Club. Gilmartin is a graduate of Rutgers University.

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LA QUINTA, Calif. — Rancho La Quinta Country Club has named Alfredo Alcocer and Humberto Cortez to oversee its championship designs. Alcocer, assistant superintendent of the club's Robert Trent Jones Jr. course for nearly a year, has assumed the role of superintendent. Alcocer, who earned a degree in turfgrass management from University of California-Riverside, previously worked for Desert Horizons Country Club in Indian Wells for 18 years. Cortez has joined the development to supervise construction and grow-in of the new Jerry Pate layout. Cortez holds a degree in turfgrass management from College of the Desert, is a former assistant superintendent for Indio's Heritage Palms and the Francisco Grande and Torres Blancas golf clubs in Arizona.

Purdue student gets Musser scholarship

SHARON CENTER, Ohio — The Musser International Turfgrass Foundation has presented its 1999 “Award of Excellence” to Purdue University graduate student William Von Sigler. The $12,000 “Award of Excellence” prize is presented to outstanding scholars who are seeking PhDs in the turfgrass sciences.

Von Sigler earned a bachelor of science degree from Purdue in 1992 and is nearing completion of his doctoral thesis, “Molecular Ecology of the Turfgrass Ecosystem,” which examines the effects on turfgrass of synthetic and biological methods of pest management.

Since 1995, Von Sigler has authored or co-authored 10 articles on a variety of topics, including the biodegradation of turfgrass fungicides, the effect of biological and chemical inputs on turfgrass soils, and proper pesticide selection.

He has also completed internships at Sand Creek Country Club and Pine Needles Resort.

“I was glad to see my work recognized,” said Von Sigler, who believes the turf industry is entering an important time as far as public perception is concerned.

“We've gone through a time period in the past 10 years in which public perception of the turf industry is not favorable, and I think the problem has been from the frequency of product applications.” The challenge for us now is to extend the efficacy of synthetic products and augment those with effective biological controls.

Having been a research assistant under Dr. Clark Throssel, Von Sigler would like to build a career in the areas of biological controls and microbial ecology.

“The research that Von is conducting for his PhD degree is novel, and will provide insight into biological disease control in turfgrasses and other agricultural commodities,” said Throssel.