MAINTENANCE

BRIEFS

O’NEILL, MAIBUSCH ON GCSAA BOARD

LAWRENCE, Kansas — Golf Course Superintendents Association of America President Scott Woodhead has named two new members to the GCSAA board of directors. Mike Wallace’s election as GCSAA secretary/treasurer and the resignation of director Samuel R. Snyder VI of Hercules Country Club in Wilmington, Del., left two director positions, each of one-year service, to be filled. Woodhead filled the first position by appointing Tim O’Neill of The Country Club of Darien in Darien, Conn. and the final director spot with Bob Maibusch of Hinsdale Golf Club in Clarendon Hills, Ill.

OTF DONATES $137,000 TO OSU

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Ohio Turfgrass Foundation (OTF) has presented a $157,000 check to Ohio State University (OSU), including $137,000 in research grants to 10 technical advisors from OSU and $20,000 in scholarships to turfgrass majors at OSU and Agricultural Technical Institute. The OTF has donated more than $3.3 million in research grants and more than $300,000 in scholarships in its 40 years of support to the industry.

MILLIKEN BENEFITS GCSAA FOUNDATION

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Milliken Chemical Co. has pledged a commitment that could exceed $250,000 to support programs of The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Foundation. The pledge places Milliken in the Foundation’s Old Tom Morris Society, the highest giving level in the “Investing in the Beauty of Golf” campaign created to fund applied research and advanced education. Funding for the commitment comes from a percentage of sales from Milliken Chemical’s foliar product line.

TAYLOR SIGNS ENVIRONMENTAL GOLF

TAYLOR, Calif. — The city of Taylor has selected Environmental Golf to provide maintenance at both Taylor Meadows and Lakes of Taylor golf courses. After five years of maintenance practices being implemented by Environmental Golf at The Lakes of Taylor site, it was the desire of the city to bring both courses under one qualified maintenance company.

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Canadian GSA board elected

TORONTO — The Canadian Golf Superintendents Association (CGSA) has elected its board of directors, who will serve under new President Merlin Affleck of Stanhope Golf & Country Club G&CC in Stanhope, Prince Edward Island.

Affleck is joined by Vice President Jay Leach of Cottonwood G&CC of Edmonton, Alberta; Secretary/Treasurer and Ontario Director Bill Fach of New York Downs G&CC in Unionville; Atlantic Director Jim Nix of Abercorn Country Club in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia; Manitoba Director Ian Martinusen of Breezy Bend Country Club in Headingley; and Quebec Director Tim Harkness of Club de Golf Le Royal Bromont in Bromont.

Continuing their two-year terms are British Columbia Director Jim McGarvey of Seymour G&CC in North Vancouver; and Saskatchewan Director Bill Radke of Candle Lake Golf Course in Candle Lake. Neil Blaney of Highwood G&CC in High River, Alberta, was appointed as Alberta director to finish Leach’s term. Past President is Dean Piller of Cordova Bay Golf Course in Victoria, British Columbia.

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Pebble Beach readies for Open

By DOUG SAUNDERS

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — A smorgasbord of major and minor changes have altered the face of Pebble Beach Golf Links recently, but a new head superintendent and his veteran staff intend to have the course in shape to be “the fairest possible test” for the U.S. Open, June 15-18.

“This is a very professional staff here at Pebble Beach,” said new head superintendent Eric Greytok. “Their experience of preparing for last year’s U.S. Amateur was invaluable in getting Pebble ready for this June. They understand what the USGA [U.S. Golf Association] expects and how to meet those expectations. They know the program and I can rely on them to assist me as I work into my new position. They mean every hing to me.”

This will be the fourth Open and the 10th USGA Championship held at the venerable Pebble Beach. It is fitting that this Open, the 100th contested, should return to the venue that has been the site of some of the greatest dramas in Open history.

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Kleinpeter: At Sandestin since the start

By PETER BLAIS

SNDESTIN, Fla. — George Kleinpeter has seen Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort through the construction of four courses and a half-dozen owners in his 27 years at the northwest Florida resort.

“My first job was running a tree spade and transplanting trees all over the property,” remembered Kleinpeter, who first joined Sandestin in October, 1973, as an equipment operator and landscape installer during construction of the resort’s first layout, Tom Jackson-designed Links Golf Course.

It didn’t take Kleinpeter long to advance through the ranks. He became assistant superintendent of the Links in 1975 and head superintendent in 1977. Kleinpeter left his head superintendent’s job (although he remained on the Sandestin payroll) in 1981 to caddie on the PGA Tour. But two years later he returned to Sandestin as full-time Links superintendent.


Two courses at Intrawest-owned Sandestin couldn’t be closer. In fact, the 11th hole on Bobby’s new Raven layout and the 18th on Rees’ Burnt Pine Golf Club are separated by only a few mounds and a handful of trees.

“Rees and I are very competitive,” Bobby conceded during a recent media outing at the family resort located between Pensacola and Panama City, eight miles east of Destin. “But there are some

Intrawest opens the Raven GC at Sandestin

By PETER BLAIS

DESTIN, Fla. — The new Raven Golf Club at Sandestin marks a couple firsts for course designer Robert Trent “Bobby” Jones Jr.

The 18-hole, 6,900-yard layout is the first Jones Jr. design in northwest Florida. It is also the first time he and brother Rees have built courses side by side at the same facility.

While the Jones brothers admit their relationship isn’t particularly close, their

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Golf Course News

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Sandestin opens
Raven Golf Club
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great holes on Rees’ course.”

The same can be said of Bobby’s latest Raven layout.
“Raven” is a designation Intrawest—which owns and/or
operates 19 courses throughout North America—attaches to
only its premier layouts. Only
The Raven Golf Club of South Mountain (Phoenix) and Raven
Golf Club at Sabino Springs (Tuc-
son, Ariz.) carry the label. Jones’
Sandestin course is the third and
will be joined late this summer
by Hurdzan/Fry-designed Raven
Golf Club at Three Peaks (Silverthorne, Colo.).
The $11.8-million Raven at
Sandestin is the recreational cen-
terpiece of the 2,400-acre, village-
centered resort, which includes
three other courses—Burnt Pine
and Tom Jackson-designed Links
Golf Course and Baytowne Golf
Club—a state-of-the-art golf learn-
ing center, 18-hole putting course,
two waterfront restaurants, 730
rental units, 14 tennis courts, a
98-slip marina, four public swim-
ning pools, 7.5 miles of beach
and bay-front properties, and
33,000 square feet of meeting
space. An ambitious $400-million
expansion plan calls for another
2,200 housing units and pedes-
trian village with shops, restaur-
ants and other amenities.
The Raven Golf Club at
Sandestin is actually a 19-hole
course with two alternate par-3
16th holes—one measuring
228 yards and the other 172
yards—that will be used on
alternating days. The two hole
16s were designed to accommo-
date housing along that area of
the course, according to Jones’
associate Bruce Charlton.
“It made more sense to have
two strong par-3s than a medio-
cre par-4,” Charlton said.
Water comes into play on 13
holes, but there are forced car-
ries on just holes 3 and 6, a 203-
yard par-3 to an island green.
The island green is just that, with
a foot bridge spanning the pond
surrounding the putting surface.
Reclaimed water from the county
wastewater treatment facility fills
the ponds and provides the
Raven’s irrigation water.
More than 600 new tree
plantings, along with native
grasses, provide striking color
changes throughout the course.
Many bunkers are patterned after
A.W. Tillinghast and Alister
Mackenzie designs.

Kleinpeter
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cession ladder which requires
everyone in the company to say
what positions they hope to hold
in the future. The ladder covers
fives months, five years and 10
years down the road. That way
[upper management] can tell em-
ployees what they can expect,
what education they need, and
what can be done to help them
get to those places.”

As for Kleinpeter, he hopes to
become increasingly involved in
course construction as Intrawest
continues to build its portfolio.
“I want to look at it from the
aspect of the player, what
Intrawest hopes to bring to a
project and helping bridge the
gap between the architect we’ve
hired and what the company
wants. I’d like to help Steve
Adelson if we get busy enough...
I’m ready to move around. If we
were to get more courses in this
part of the country, maybe I could
become a regional agronomist.”

The growth of companies, like
Intrawest, is a good example of
the consolidation taking place in
the golf industry. While the trend
has advantages in terms of re-
ources and career opportunities,
Kleinpeter hopes the cooperative
atmosphere superintendents at
neighboring courses have tradi-
tionally enjoyed doesn’t disappear
due to corporate competition.

“I haven’t experienced it, yet,”
he said. “But I’m concerned that
it could happen because of the
[nature of the] corporate world.
We don’t get to see or talk to
each other like we used to. The
corporate world keeps us so busy
doing reports that we [superin-
tendents] have lost some of that
contact with each other. I’ll con-
tinue to try to keep in touch with
the local guys. But I’ve been
pulled away from that the last
two years. It’s real easy to do
because you are so involved with
your own company that you don’t
feel you have time to talk to the
guys down the road. That bothe-
ers me a whole lot.”

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