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INSIDE
Design and Construction
In this month’s special section learn the ins and outs of permitting a golf course project.........24

A Second Chance
John Vogts heads a course maintenance training program for troubled kids at the Glen Mills School....8

CALIFORNIA’S COYOTE MOON
Former professional golfer Brad Bell has opened his third course, Coyote Moon, on a one-time logging tract in the High Sierras. The course is a rarity in California, as it was built strictly for golf, not to sell housing lots. Builders rushed the construction through in six months to beat the snows of the high country. Pictured above is the par-3 13th hole that features an 88 foot drop. See story page 15.

COURSE MAINTENANCE
The first installment of Piersol’s Perspectives at Markut’s PGA Golf Club 9
New company fights bugs with bugs 12

COURSE DEVELOPMENT
Thistle Golf Club adds nine holes 15
Camas Meadows debuts in Washington 16
Palmer course in state park taking shape 20

COURSE MANAGEMENT
Platinum Golf Properties sets up shop 27
Heritage Golf Group picking up steam 27
Zurich U.S. enters insurance market 28

SUPPLIER BUSINESS
Carl M. Freeman starts e-commerce venture 31
Golfsat teams with eFORCE 32
New products 34

PERIODICAL

BASF readies specialty product unit
By A. OVERBECK
RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, N.C.—Following the July 1 closing of its acquisition of American Cyanamid, BASF has completed the integration of product lines and management teams to form BASF Specialty Products Division (BASFspd). The new division will be responsible for the company’s turf, ornamental and pest control business.

"In the past, BASF was more focused on the agricultural side," said Bill Baxter, business manager for turf, ornamental and pest control, "With the acquisition of American Cyanamid, which had a separate specialty products division that focused on turf and ornamental and pest control, it made sense...

Continued on page 33

On the beach: Jack’s new Ocean Hammock seems destined for fame
By JAY FINEGAN
PALM COAST, Fla. — Florida’s first true oceanfront golf course to be built in 70 years will make its highly anticipated debut on December 5, with designer Jack Nicklaus scheduled to hit the inaugural drive off the first tee.

Located between St. Augustine and Daytona Beach on Florida’s northeast coast, with six holes playing right along the Atlantic, Ocean Hammock Golf Club is guaranteed to be something special. Indeed, the U.S. Golf Association has already named the course to host regional qualifying rounds next May for the 2001 U.S. Open.

"It’s a magnificent piece of property," said superintendent Tray Malby. "I feel very fortunate to be here. Sometimes I have to pinch myself."

The 7,200-yard, par-72 layout is being developed at a cost of $12 million by Lowe Enterprises, of Los Angeles, which operates four other courses in the Palm Coast area, including such standouts as Pine Lakes, Cypress Knoll and Palm Harbor. The new layout also features two driving ranges, practice greens and a teaching tee.

Ocean Hammock appears destined to take its place among Florida’s elite resort courses. In fact, head professional Chuck Kantt predicts it will become one of the most highly regarded courses in the country. "It’s going to provide a golfering experience like no other on the East Coast," he said. "We have a goal to draw big-name tournaments here, and I’m confident it will happen."

‘A TOUCH OF PEBBLE BEACH’
Nicklaus has put his stamp all over this course. Strategy and scenery intersect at nearly every turn, with great care taken to ensure the terrain works in harmony with its surroundings.

“You might say it joins a little of the West and East coasts by combining a

Continued on page 23

Pine bark beetles wreaking broad devastation across the South
By JOEL JOYNER
TEMPLE TERRACE, Fla. — Already stressed by heat, drought and increased urban development, pine trees in the Southeast are falling victim to widespread devastation by pine bark beetles. Alabama, Florida and South Carolina have been especially hard hit by the lethal pests.

Pine bark beetles, also known as engraver beetles, are small cylindrical insects that attack and kill pine trees by feeding and laying eggs in the inner bark of the tree. Once a pine is colonized by these beetles, it will soon die.

Evidence of a large infestation of southern pine beetles in eastern Texas

Continued on page 14

Injured golfer wins $7.5 million settlement
By JAY FINEGAN
ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Lansdowne Resort Golf Club in northern Virginia has settled out of court for $7.5 million to compensate a player who was struck in the neck by a stray golf ball. The settlement agreement came in late September, two and a half years after James Tobin was hit on the practice putting green at Lansdowne, a public 18-hole course in Loudoun County.

At the time of the accident, Tobin was a sales manager for General Electric. He was 42 years old, and a 2-handicap player. A stroke has left him unbalanced and unable to walk

Continued on page 30
Pine bark beetles devastating South

They estimated the loss at about $113 million in timber. Here at the Temple Terrace Golf & Country Club, near Tampa, more than 60 trees have been killed by so-called "ips" beetles, causing $25,000 in damage. The ips are second only to the SPBs in their devastation.

"Once a tree is infested, there's no saving it," said Doug Hughes, superintendent at Admiral Golf Club, near Tampa, more than 60 trees at Temple Terrace. "We've been spraying the insecticide Lindane around the base of the pines and trying to cover at least 10 feet up the trunk," said Hughes. "But there's little we can do about the drought and water restrictions. At the moment, I'm only allowed to water my fairways once a week."

 Hughes is busy trying to save the other 100 or more pines left on his golf course while systematically removing the 60 dead trees at Temple Terrace. "We've been spraying the insecticide Lindane around the base of the pines and trying to cover at least 10 feet up the trunk," said Hughes. "But there's little we can do about the drought and water restrictions. At the moment, I'm only allowed to water my fairways once a week."

Ed Barnard, Ph.D., forest pathologist for the Florida Division of Forestry, explains that "turfgrass and pines are not ideally compatible. Most any urban development in a pine tree surrounding is likely to weaken the trees over time, through root damage or drawing down nearby water levels. Pine bark beetles don't attack healthy pines, but they will destroy a stressed pine tree, and rapidly."

The South Carolina Forestry Commission (SCFC) reports over a million dead or dying pines from the SPB and ips, with estimated summer losses exceeding $24 million. The epidemic is described as the second worst on record in South Carolina, with Union County having identified almost 1,000 individual infestations.

According to SCFC entomologist Andy Boone, cool weather will temporarily slow the spread of the beetles for the winter, but the epidemic is expected to last at least through next summer. The SCFC said 13 counties now face serious losses from the insect.

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