Corrections
• According to Jim Barrett, president of James Barrett Associates, 2 percent of all the planet's water is in the ice caps and glaciers, and 99 percent of all the planet's water is unavailable for all of man's needs. This information was incorrect in the "War over water" feature in the October issue.
• Dacolin and chlorothalonil were misspelled in the "Disease control" feature in the October issue.

Industry news
Kansas State, Pursell enhance program
Sylacauga, Ala. -- Kansas State University partnered with Pursell Technologies to enhance the school's golf course management program and the future of the turf industry through a new breed of superintendent. The Kansas State horticulture department offers a golf course management program that educates students in all aspects of managing and operating a golf course, going beyond traditional turf maintenance.

Dr. Jeff Higgins, executive director of business development for Pursell, is an adjunct faculty member and has taught a class on nutrient management and fertilization strategies.

The university hopes to place future interns at Pursell-family-owned FarmLinks Golf Club to further students' experiences. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in The Experience at FarmLinks where they will receive education about fertilizer release mechanisms from Pursell and attend sessions about plant protection strategies and golf course maintenance and irrigation equipment.

Premier Golf leases courses in Cincinnati
Pacific Palisades, Calif. -- Premier Golf Management leased five golf courses in the greater Cincinnati/Kentucky area: Crooked Tree Golf Course, Shaker Run Golf Club, Walden Ponds Golf Club, Deer Run Country Club and Traditions Golf Club. The U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship will be held at Shaker Run in 2005.

The company's portfolio now includes 20 courses in 10 states. Recent transactions include purchases, leases, management contracts and receivership management agreements.

Overseeding Bermudagrass discussed at summit
San Francisco -- A meeting that focused on issues regarding transition management of overseeded Bermudagrass on golf courses attracted university and U.S. Golf Association researchers from throughout the transition-region states.

Stan Zontek of the USGA Green Section in the mid-Atlantic region provided an overview of the history of overseeding and transition of golf courses. Presenters provided research data and opinions about topics such as "What happens to Bermudagrass during spring transition," "The effect of Bermudagrass cultivars and herbicides on transition success," and "The influence of fungicides during spring transition."

Shawn Emerson, director of agronomy at Desert Mountain Resort in Scottsdale, Ariz., provided a case study of his experiences with transition on the six Jack Nicklaus-designed golf courses he manages.

"Timing of transition is the biggest struggle in our operation," Emerson says. "A few days can make the difference of millions of dollars in revenue for our golf courses."

Adequate fertility is a key for successful transition, according to Dr. Bert McCarty, professor of horticulture at Clemson University. The use of herbicides increases the density of turf and allows a better base of Bermudagrass, according to Dr. Tim Murphy, professor of weed science at the University of Georgia. Bayer Environmental Sciences sponsored the meeting.

Association news
GCSAA ratifies candidate choices for 2005 elections
Lawrence, Kan. -- The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America ratified the slate of candidates for its 2005 elections. Voting members will elect three officers and three directors at the annual meeting Feb. 11, which is held in conjunction with the GCSAA education conference and Golf Industry Show in Orlando, Fla.

The following individuals will appear on the ballot:
For president: Timothy T. O'Neill of the Country Club of Darien (Conn.)
For vice president: Sean A. Hoodehan of Wildhorse Resort Golf Course in Pendleton, Ore.
For secretary/treasurer: David S. Downing II, director of golf operations at The Pearl Golf Links and Ocean Isle Beach Golf Course in Sunset Beach, N.C.; and Ricky D. Heine, general manager at The Golf Club Star Ranch in Austin, Texas.

For director: Gregg A. Blew of Wellshire Golf Club in Denver; James R. Fitzroy, director/superintendent at the Wollaston Recreational Facility/Presidents Golf Course in North Quincy, Mass.; Mark D. Kuhns, director of grounds at Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, N.J.; and Robert M. Randquist, director of golf course and grounds at Boca Rio Golf Club in Boca Raton, Fla.

All candidates are certified golf course superintendents.
Jon D. Maddern, immediate past president, and Robert J. Maibusch, director, are retiring from the board. Mark J. Woodward will serve on the board for one year as immediate past presi
dent. Gary K. Carls has one year remaining on his two-year term as director.

Audubon group designates courses for environment
Selkirk, N.Y. — The following properties have been designated as Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuaries, according to Audubon International:
- Ekwanok Country Club in Manchester, Vt. — Tedd Mattocks, superintendent;
- Hamilton Golf and Country Club in Ancaster, Ont. — Tracy Fowler, assistant superintendent;
- Maroon Creek Club in Aspen, Colo. — John Uphergrove, superintendent;
- IGM — Broad Bay Country Club in Virginia Beach, Va. — Dan Schlamp;
- Telfuride (Colo.) Golf Club — Deanna Belch;
- Braemar Golf Course in Edina, Minn. — Bob Atol, assistant superintendent;
- Newport National Golf Club — Orchard Course in Middletown, R.I. — Scott Roche, director of maintenance operations; and
- Glen Abbey Golf Club in Oakville, Ont. — Peter Kinch, superintendent.

Also, Audubon Park Golf Course in New Orleans and St. James Bay Golf Course in Carrabelle, Fla., were designated as Certified Signature Sanctuaries.

Four hundred and ninety-eight golf courses have achieved designation as Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuaries for implementing a complement of environmental activities.

PGA launches certificate program for management
Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. — The PGA of America launched the PGA Certified Professional Program, an online, career-enhancing educational curriculum that supports goals of PGA Professionals who are improving their management skills. The program enables golf professionals to achieve certification in one of six career paths: general management, golf operations, instruction, retail, executive management and ownership/leasing.

Once professionals select a career path, they can begin the online course work, which can be completed at their convenience from any location. The program follows five steps: self-assessment, courses, proficiency test, career path certification and master professional program. Certification enables PGA professionals to prove they have quantifiable and measurable skills that will have a positive impact on their employers’ bottom line.

Almost 80 percent of all golf courses with 18 or more holes have a PGA member present.

Irrigation group presents awards for achievements
Falls Church, Va. — The Irrigation Association announced the recipients of its annual awards, which were presented at the 25th International Irrigation Show in Tampa, Fla., Nov. 15.

Retired Irrrometer Co. president William R. Pogue received the Irrigation Association 2004 Industry Achievement Award, which was established in 1966 and recognizes the achievements from an individual within the industry who has contributed to the advancement of the irrigation industry and its products.

Edward M. Norum, the first executive director of the Center for Irrigation Technology, and Dr. Stuart Styles, director of the Irrigation Training and Research Center, received the 2004 Crawford Reid Memorial Award, which was established in 1995. Buzzard is vice president for international and agriculture development methods and provides information relating to irrigation procedures, equipment, methods and techniques. It was established in 1982.

Builders association joins in to present Golf Industry Show
Lincoln, Neb. — The reach of the Golf Industry Show will extend to those who shape the game’s courses as the Golf Course Builders Association of America agreed to join the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, the National Golf Course Owners Association and the Club Managers Association of America to present the Golf Industry Show.

The inaugural Golf Industry Show, which combines the GCSSA and NGCOA trade shows, will be conducted Feb. 10-12, 2005 at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Fla. The CMAA will become associated with the event in 2007 in Anaheim, Calif., after conducting its 2005 World Conference on Club Management and Exposition, Feb. 27 - March 3 in New Orleans and its 2006 gathering in Hawaii.

The GCBAA previously had a presence at the GCSSA International Golf Course Conference and Show. This year, the GCBAA will participate in various trade show features, most notably the building of the green solution center. GCBAA members will be demonstrating construction methods and providing information regarding putting green complexes.

"From the GCBAA member standpoint, exposure to key decision-makers whether by exhibiting or networking is of significant value," says GCBAA president Tommy Sasser. "From the attendee perspective, securing comprehensive business solutions from those who own, build and manage a course will only strengthen their facility's operations."
IAEF awards trip to college student for irrigation show

Falls Church, Va. – The Irrigation Association Education Foundation awarded Michelle Bunch, a University of Tennessee student who promotes water conservation through the use of reclaimed water, a trip to Florida to the 25th International Irrigation Show.

Bunch's instructor, Gary Menendez, received show registration and a complimentary hotel stay, as well.

Students were asked to submit a paper or project that encourages water management and conservation related to irrigation systems used in landscape or agriculture sites.

Several technical papers for turf and landscape were presented during the show and addressed various aspects of using reclaimed water. Researchers are looking at using air-conditioner condensate and rainwater gathered in cisterns for irrigation.

College students chosen by GCSAA for scholarships

Lawrence, Kan. – The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America selected two national honorees in the 2004 Scotts Co. Scholars Program.

Winners are Jacob Schneider, a soil science major at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Benjamin Stover, a horticulture management major at Iowa State University.

The Scotts Co. Scholars Program, administered by The Environmental Institute for Golf, recognizes promising students from culturally diverse backgrounds who have an interest in pursuing a career in the green industry. As part of the program, five finalists are selected for summer internships, a $500 award and the opportunity to compete for the two $2,500 scholarships. Additionally, the two scholarship winners will receive an all expense paid trip to the 2005 Golf Industry Show in Orlando, Fla., Feb. 10-12.

New process for certification implemented

Lawrence, Kan. – The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America is implementing a new certification process and exam. Since Nov. 1, GCSAA members interested in becoming certified have been subjected to the new exam and certification process.

The Professional Development Initiative began with a mission to improve the knowledge, skills and abilities of the professional superintendent that contribute toward improved playing conditions and enjoyment of the game of golf.
golf. During the initial discussions of PDI, the primary goal of the certification committee was to define the competencies necessary to be a successful superintendent to redesign the GCSAA’s existing certification examination to a competency-based program in line with the PDI.

More than 200 GCSAA members were involved in the program’s redesign. Members served as committee members, subject matter experts, survey participants, item writers, beta testers and portfolio judges, all of whom had specific goals throughout the process that contributed to the final product.

Course news

Construction ready for golf course in Sunshine State

Lakeland, Fla. — With Community Development District funding approved, developers of a new golf course community called Bridgewater began construction of a Steve Smyers-designed golf course.

The CDD, a private agency that sells and manages community bonds to pay for the common areas of developments including golf courses, gave the approval after meeting with Bridgewater’s developers. The group is led by Riverview, Fla.-based site developer Kearney Development Co. and Phillips Development of Raleigh, N.C.

The 600-acre Bridgewater property contains 228 acres of lakes and will devote 200 acres to a daily-fee golf course, leaving the remaining land to develop 800 houses around the lakes. The housing, restaurant and clubhouse are being built by Kearney, and the golf course will be constructed by Niebur Golf of Colorado Springs, Colo.

Twenty-four acres of overgrown, distressed wetlands will be dug up and improved by clearing out trash growth and planting native materials.

The project will create a 165-acre wildlife corridor consisting of 64 acres of upland native tree and grass plantings, such as slash pines, sabal palms, cord grass and paspalum, and the lowlands and wetlands. Only 67 acres of turfgrass will be maintained, and wetlands will mark low areas. Trees, grasses and shrubs will delineate high areas.

Brasada Ranch in development on West Coast

Redmond, Ore. — Eagle Crest, a division of Jeld-Wen Corp., broke ground on an 18-hole layout at Brasada Ranch, a resort community.

Brasada Ranch will feature 900 real-estate units spread throughout 1,800 acres, half of which will be preserved as open space. The course will occupy about 200 acres, winding its way through the property’s high-desert landscape replete with miniature canyons and sage brush.

The resort sits 3,500 feet above sea level on the western slope of the Cascades.

“What we’re doing here presents us a tremendous opportunity for invention,” says Peter Jacobsen, a partner with Jacobsen Hardy Golf Course Design, the architectural firm that designed the course. “We’ve routed several holes down in the canyons, while other holes play across the tops and along the edges.

“The site has an old trestle bridge coming off the 18th hole,” he adds. “We’ll be using this elevated structure to bring golf carts back to the clubhouse. The club’s entry drive will pass right underneath the trestle.”

Weather permitting, course construction will continue through 2005. A grand opening is scheduled for early 2006.

The irrigation system, which will use effluent water, will be tied into a central weather system on site to adjust for weather patterns automatically. The sewer treatment plant will produce the cleanest effluent possible, and the gray water will be reused to irrigate the golf course. Plans also include moving 100,000 cubic yards of dirt – mostly to create an irrigation pond. Additionally, limited turf acreage will be used.

“On many holes, we’ll be building perimeter tees where you walk through desert areas back to a series of pods,” says Jim Hardy, a partner with Jacobsen Hardy who estimated that less than 100 acres of the course will be maintained as turf. “Basically, we’ve kept grassing to a minimum, which reduces overall irrigation allotments.”

Glacier Club features new holes

Durango, Colo. — The former Tamarron Resort was transformed into the new 27-hole Glacier Club, which features a new clubhouse and golf community amid the San Juan Mountains. It opened in late July. The centerpiece of the course is the new nine holes and 18 redesigned holes designed by Design Workshop.

The course weaves through conifer forest and protected wetlands. With five sets of tees, the course is designed to be comfortable for golfers of all abilities. For environmental and aesthetic reasons, the designers — Todd Schoeder and Jeff Zimmermann — rejected conventional culverts and piping to manage surface water, instead structuring the course with an underlayment of six inches of sand and a natural filtration system of constructed wetlands that increase the site’s wetlands. The course is irrigated by reclaimed water. Less than one-half acre of wetlands was disturbed in its making.

Play on Glacier 9 will require equity membership in The Glacier Club, which will encompass a resort village of 170 luxury town homes and 170 custom homes, as well as hiking trails, swimming and clubhouse restaurants.

Skylinks course reopens after $6-million facelift

Long Beach, Calif. — The Skylinks at Long Beach Golf Course reopened in October following a $6-million renovation initiated by the Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation & Marine in collaboration with golf course operator American Golf.
Course designer Cal Olson worked with Wadsworth Golf Construction to transform the flat course into an undulating layout that will play 600 yards longer – 6,973 yards from the championship tees – than the original. The par-72 course features larger, bentgrass greens, Bermuda-grass tees and fairways, four lakes with fountains, 80 bunkers, 700 new trees and more than 1,000 shrubs. Also, a waterfall was added between the first and 10th tees.

Complementing the course is a new short-game facility that includes a chipping green, practice bunker and enhanced driving range. Additionally, the property’s new expansive banquet facility is expected to open during the fourth quarter this year.

New course opens to public in Pennsylvania

Bucks County, Pa. – Makefield Highlands Golf Club, an 18-hole public layout, opened in July. Designed by Rick Jacobsen, the course is laid out on the partially wooded, rolling terrain of a former farm. The 166-acre site features underlying rock formations and a small stream that comes into play on several holes. Landforms separate the holes, and the roughs feature native grasses. The course, which feature five sets of tees, measures 7,058 yards from the tips and 5,007 yards from the forward tees. The course features a par-5, 640-yard hole, which is the largest hole ever built by Jacobsen, he says.

Brookside reopens after architect redesigns course

Canton, Ohio – With 18 of the country’s best-preserved, Donald Ross-designed greens, Brookside Country Club might have seemed an unlikely candidate for restoration. But with the help of architect Brian Silva, Brookside is now a preserved Ross layout, tee to green.

Closed in the fall of 2003, Brookside reopened for member play in June, minus 600 trees and featuring the perpendicular fairway bunkers Ross originally designed – much of which had been abandoned since the course opened in 1920. The club held a rededication ceremony for its course Aug. 13.

Working with MacCurrrach Golf Construction of Jacksonville, Fla., Silva

With 330 acres to choose from, Lohmann and Mike Benkusky, the senior architect who directed the Mattaponi project for Lohmann Golf Designs, were able to choose the best land for strategy and aesthetics. A good example is the par-3 third hole, which plays 148 yards from an elevated tee that features long views of the surrounding countryside. A rear shelf divides the putting surface in half, and the 193 bentgrass greens are replete with the shelves.

The clubhouse and golf course are new, but many of the surrounding structures are remnants of the property’s history. The 19th Century lodge from the Rose Hill estate has been completely refurbished to accommodate the club’s outings and functions.

Mattaponi Springs opens in Virginia after five years

Ruther Glen, Va. – Mattaponi Springs Golf Club, the first East Coast design from Chicago-based architect Bob Lohmann, opened in October on the former Rose Hill estate, a 330-acre property an hour south of Washington.

Developed the past five years by Bellemount Development Corp., 18-hole Mattaponi Springs is an upscale daily-fee course featuring zoysiagrass fairways that cut through wooded terrain.

The course meanders through forests of beech, oak, holly and pine trees, and over rolling terrain cut by several streams that feed the nearby Mattaponi River. The layout measures more than 6,900 yards from the tips, though five sets of tees make the routing playable for players of all abilities.
also rebuilt all 18 tee complexes and installed a new irrigation system. Yet the bulk of Silva's work amounted to restorative re-expansion. Fairways had become narrow by excessive tree-planting programs, and fairway bunkers filled in throughout time, Silva also restored Brookside's trademark greens to their original parameters, recapturing portions of certain putting surfaces that had disappeared following decades of careless mowing practices.

Davis Love III designs course on Hampton Island

Hampton Island, Ga. — A Davis Love III-designed golf course will be built on the 4,000-acre Hampton Island nestled along the Georgia coast 35 miles south of Savannah. The island is a low-density, ecologically sensitive community that features natural beauty.

"We plan to create a golf experience that fits seamlessly within the natural environment — one that reflects not only the history and traditions of the game of golf, but the history of the area itself," says Love, a PGA Tour pro and golf course designer.

The 18-hole course will weave through the island's historic rice fields and equestrian plantations.

"We are equally committed to protecting our rich coastal history and to preserving the coastal sanctuary that is Hampton Island, while creating a unique golf experience that even the most sophisticated golfer can appreciate," says Wade Shealy, managing partner of Hampton Island.

Golf course at Patriots Point acquired by Ginn

Charleston, S.C. — The Ginn Co., a Florida-based resort development company, acquired the golf course at Patriots Point. Presently, The Ginn Co. owns and operates RiverTowne Country Club in Mount Pleasant, S.C., which features the area's only Arnold Palmer signature golf course design.

Patriots Point is situated on land with a number of undeveloped parcels, which makes it suited for company's Charleston expansion plan that includes two other major acquisitions, according to Bobby Ginn, president and c.e.o. of The Ginn Co.


Pinehurst, N.C. — The Olympic Club in San Francisco will host the U.S. Amateur Championship in 2007, and Pinehurst Resort will host it in 2008. The 2007 championship will be held August 20-26, and the 2008 championship will be held August 18-24.

WIN

$2,500 worth of LESCO products!

You can win $2500 to spend at LESCO. Just visit the website below to register!

www.lesco.com/GCN

LESCO and Z-Two are registered trademarks. Stores-on-Wheels is a registered service mark, and Commercialplus, Manicure, LESCO 18 Plus, LESCO Spectator, Primo, LESCO T-Storm, and Touché are trademarks of LESCO Technologies, LLC. Signature is a trademark of Bayer AG. Bayleton is a registered trademark of Bayer AG, Germany.
Olympic, which recently hosted the 2004 U.S. Junior Amateur, has been the site of four U.S. Opens, as well as the Amateur in 1958 and 1981. The Lake Course and Ocean Course will be used at the 2007 Amateur.

Prior to 2007, the Amateur will be played at Pinehurst No. 2. The 2008 U.S. Open, which will be played June 17-20. Additionally, the Pebble Beach Co. offered to host an undetermined future U.S. Women's Open.

Prior to 2010, the Open will be played at Pinehurst Resort and Country Club (No. 2 Course) in the Village of Pinehurst, N.C., June 16-19, 2005; Winged Foot Golf Club in Mamaroneck, N.Y., June 15-18, 2006; Oakland Country Club in Oakland, Pa., June 14-17, 2007; Torrey Pines Golf Course in San Diego, June 12-15, 2008; and Bethpage State Park (Black Course) in Farmingdale, N.Y., June 18-21, 2009.

Congressional to host U.S. Open
Bethesda, Md. — The Blue Course at Congressional Country Club will host the 2011 U.S. Open Championship June 16-19. The 2009 U.S. Amateur will be conducted at Congressional Country Club as well, using its Blue and Gold courses for the two rounds of stroke play before shifting to the Blue Course for the six round of match play.

Designed by Devereux Emmett in 1924 and renovated by Rees Jones in 1990, Congressional has been the site of five previous USGA championships, including the 1964 and 1997 U.S. Opens.

Rulewich designs two golf courses in Portugal
Bernardston, Mass. — The Roger Rulewich Group, a golf course design and construction partnership, signed a contract to design four 18-hole golf courses at Parque Alqueva in Alentejo, Portugal for Lisbon-based SAIP.

The golf courses will be part of a 5,000-acre master planned resort community located on the banks of a large man-made lake in Europe that recently was created by the construction of the Alqueva Dam. The low-density, eco-sensitive community will feature tennis and golf academies, summer camps, marinas, an archaeological park and a vineotherapy spa, in addition to the public and private golf courses.

Architect Roger Rulewich completed routing plans for all four courses in incorporation into the master plan. Construction on the community is scheduled to start in 2006, and the first golf course is scheduled to open in 2007.

Hillman Properties to build clubhouse at Wild Herron
Lake Powell, Fla. — Hillman Properties is developing the Shark's Tooth golf clubhouse at Wild Herron, a 734-acre residential community located along the shores of Lake Powell. Influenced by the Coastal Craftsman architectural style, the clubhouse is ahead of schedule.

The 15,500-square-foot clubhouse will accommodate everything from casual lunches to fine dining as well as social events in the grand dining room. Various features include separate lounges, grilles, and locker areas for men and women, and a golf shop. Golf instruction will be available by appointment.

Part of Wild Herron is the Greg Norman-designed two-year-old Shark's Tooth Golf Course, which has received the Silver Signature Sanctuary by Audubon International.

Ibis Golf Club gets new neighbors
West Palm Beach, Fla. — La Strada, a new neighborhood of 30 homesites with views of Ibis Golf & Country Club’s ninth fairway of The Tradition golf course will be developed by Arthur Rutenberg Homes. Paramount Residential also will develop a 58-home neighborhood with views of the ninth, 10th and 11th fairways of The Tradition golf course. Residents will be able to take advantages of 54 holes of championship golf on three Nicklaus-family designed courses and a 50,000-square-foot clubhouse.

Ocean Edge club to offer golf school
Brewster, Mass. — Ocean Edge Resort & Golf Club is offering professional golf instruction. Beginning in May 2005, Ocean Edge will welcome John Jacobs' Golf Schools to its bayside location overlooking Cape Cod Bay.

Headquartered in Mesa, Ariz., John Jacobs' Golf Schools emphasize tailored training techniques to meet golfer's individual needs. The schools teaching system is based on consistency and consistency, and are delivered only by Jacobs-certified PGA and LPGA Pros who have been trained in the school's philosophy. About 15,000 students graduate from John Jacobs' Golf Schools annually at 33 locations throughout the world.

The schools will be offered at Ocean Edge through mid-July, 2005. Guests at Ocean Edge will be able to enjoy three-day schools with John Jacobs' instructors. Schools average four hours per day plus optional playing time, and cover all aspects of the game, including full swing, short game, trouble spots, and on-course play.

Supplier news
A new minimum container of Bayleton WP fungicide is available through all approved distributor partners of Bayer Environmental Science. The fungicide in the minimum will cover 25 acres of turf at the low-labeled rate of application. The previous minimum covered 22 acres at the same rate. Bayleton is
registered to control a broad spectrum of turf diseases, including dollar spot, summer patch and take-all patch.

Briggs & Stratton Commercial Power recently hosted a backyard party in Manassas, Va., for Tony Moore, superintendent of Potomac Bay Golf Course. At this year's GCSAA Show, Moore registered for the Briggs & Stratton Commercial Power-hosted Big Block party for 25 to 35 of his friends, colleagues, customers and neighbors. To celebrate the launch of the Vanguard V-twin Big Block air-cooled and liquid-cooled engines in the 25- to 35-hp range, Briggs & Stratton gave away the party that included complimentary food and prizes, including merchandise and a pressure washer.

Golf Ventures West, a distributor of agronomic supplies and golf course equipment, opened its fifth location, which is in San Diego.

International Turf Producers Foundation raised more than $37,000 to help support turfgrass research as a result of the "Pull for ITTF Tractor Sweepstakes" at the Turfgrass Producers International summer convention and field days in Harrisburg, Pa. At the convention, Leo Shelton of JMC Landscape Co. in Excelsior, Mo., won the grand prize, which was a 2004 New Holland TN75SA deluxe utility turf special tractor.

Jacobsen updated its brand identity with a new logo, a more aggressive corporate philosophy, dealer-support materials, and a Web-site redesign that conveys the brand's heritage and turf equipment, as well as its financial services and customer support. The logo features the Jacobsen name and a stylized blade of grass that have been incorporated into a badge with a three-dimensional effect. Dealer-support materials include print ads, equipment collateral and billboards.

Lange Containment Systems, a manufacturer of geosynthetic membranes, celebrated its 10-year anniversary.

LESCO opened a new service center in Roseville, Calif. The location is the company's seventh service center in California and the second one opened this year.

Stanton, Calif.-based Melco Linings joined the PVC Geomembrane Institute as a fabricator/installer member. Melco Linings fabricates PVC products.

PPG Golf Finance, a division of Information Leasing Corp., changed its name to National City Golf Finance, a division of National City Commercial Capital Corp. The name reflects the combination of the company's parent company's leasing group, Provident Financial Group and National City Corp. The merger of Provident and National City closed July 1. Chris L. Schauerman will remain vice president of National City Golf.

The Tensar Corp. acquired North American Green. The deal was finalized Sept. 24. North American Green's rolled erosion-control products mesh with Tensar's geogrids and Geopier foundation systems, both of which provide site development soil reinforcement solutions. Through the partnership and its complementary product line, customers will be able to take advantage of streamlined project design and product specification services.

Players Turf International completed the installation of its synthetic tee line at the driving range at the University of Florida Golf Course. Perfect Tee is synthetic turf that was introduced at the 2004 PGA Merchandise Show in Orlando, Fla. The University of Florida project included the installation of 1,200 square feet of tee line, consisting of a 100-foot-by-12-foot area.

The company also launched its PGA Referral Program that allows PGA professionals to earn extra income while introducing their members to synthetic putting greens. The company will provide marketing materials at golf courses and training facilities. It also is launching a section on its Web site designed to assist PGA members who implement the program at their facility. The company will pay a referral fee of $0.25 per square foot up to a maximum of $500 per installation to the referring PGA professional. The company also will pay a monetary benefit per successful referral for supporting the program for its members to the referring professional's PGA Section.

Personnel news

John LeClair, superintendent at Warwick Country Club in North Attleboro, Mass., became a certified golf course superintendent designated by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

Henry Delozier, vice president of golf for Pulte Homes, was elected president of the Cactus and Pine Foundation at its annual meeting. The foundation is a 501 C 3 not-for-profit organization that supports turfgrass research and scholarships through golf events, grants and personal solicitations. Evie Hill, founder of the Ladybug Charity Golf Tournament, was elected vice president and David Wenecke, regional agronomist for the USGA, was elected secretary. Dr. Paul Rowe, a member of the Arizona Country Club, and Todd Huizinga, director of golf at Stone Canyon Golf Club, are new board members.

Archie Lemon, director of golf operations for Burroughs & Chapin Golf Management, was elected president of the Myrtle Beach Area Golf Course Owners Association. Burroughs & Chapin owns or manages several Myrtle Beach golf courses, including Grande Dunes, Myrtlewood Golf Club, Pine Lakes International Country Club, Tidewater Golf Club, Farmstead Golf Links and Meadowlands Golf Club.

Marsh Benson, senior director of golf course grounds at Augusta (Ga.) National Golf Club, will be presented with the 2004 Leo Feser Award Feb. 11, 2005, during the general session of the 2005 Golf Industry Show and Golf Course Superintendents Association of America education conference in Orlando, Feb. 7-12. The annual award honors the best superintendent-authored article published in Golf Course Management.

Tammie J. Woster is the food-and-beverage manager at Circling Raven Golf Club and Coeur d'Alene (Idaho) Casino Resort Hotel.

Art Campbell, owner of Rossville, Kan.-based Campbell Sod, became the 34th president of Turfgrass Producers International at the group's summer convention in Harrisburg, Pa. As president of the more than 1,100-member, not-for-profit trade association, Campbell will be responsible for the group's operations.
Cranbury, N.J.-based Plant Food Company hired Gregory R. Moore as distributor sales manager.

Brigid Braun is the district sales manager for Florida and Georgia for Precision Laboratories. Braun, a certified golf course superintendent, will be responsible for the sales and marketing of the company’s product line to the golf course, landscape, sports field and public grounds markets.

Charles Lewison, a certified golf course superintendent, joined Quality Golf as a senior consultant. Lewison will work with executive director Tony Taylor in all phases of the company’s consulting operation throughout Asia.

Chuck Greif is the new business development manager for Rain Bird’s golf irrigation business unit. Greif will be responsible for evaluating and developing new lines of business to add to the company’s golf product offerings.

Bryan Campbell is a new senior service technician for the Northeast region for Rain Bird. Campbell will be responsible for providing technical on-site service and support for all Rain Bird Golf customers located in the region. He will also provide technical training to company distributors, employees and customers. He also will help develop and grow new and existing service business.

Mike Redmond joined Reinders’ turf division as a turf specialist and will help the company expand into the Minnesota market. Reinders is a Wisconsin-based distributor of commercial turf equipment, irrigation products, landscape supplies, and Morton water softening and ice control salt.

Michael J. Hoffman was elected president and chief operating officer of The Toro Co. Hoffman is a 27-year veteran with the company. Most recently, he had been group vice president of the consumer, landscape contractor and international businesses. Kendrick B. Melrose will continue in his role as chief executive officer and chairman.

The Toro Co. appointed Steve Stephens director of marketing for its irrigation division. Stephens will develop and implement the strategic marketing plans for all irrigation division product lines.

After more than two decades of service, Doug Fender, executive director of Turfgrass Producers International, retired. During his tenure, the organization grew to 1,100 members in 40 countries. Fender also helped form the International Turf Producers Foundation.