

Clippings

Brief bits of news from in and around the golf business.

Setting a precedent, a U.S. circuit court in Texas has ordered the employer of a national guardsman to rearrange the guardsman's work schedule so he can work a full 40 hours during weeks when he is required to attend military training. The court held that the veterans' reemployment rights law requires employers to "treat reservists as if they were constructively present during their reserve duty. . . ." "This construction not only conforms to the Congressional intent that employees not be penalized for serving their country," the judge said, "but also prevents the statute from being rendered a nullity."

In this section of the December issue of GOLF BUSINESS, we ran an item stating that Dr. Roy Bond had found a type of fungus that coats sand grains with a water repellent material. We have received a letter from Aquatrols Corporation of America stating that neither of their products, Aquagro nor Hydro-Wet, were used in Dr. Bond's studies. Robert Moore, president of Aquatrols, further states that "the work of Drs. Beard & Rieke of Michigan State University and Dr. Wilkinson of Ohio State University found these wetting agents to be very effective in overcoming the water-repellant layer product produced by a fungus on the sand grains found both in prepared golf greens, and in natural sandy soils."

Lake City Community College in Lake City, Florida recently had a visit from U.S. Senator Dick Stone. Stone was interested in seeing how federal funds were spent in training persons in the art and science of greenkeeping. "There is a direct relationship of the game of golf to the tourist industry of Florida," Stone said. "Adequately designed and well manicured golf courses play a vital role in the state's economy." The Golf Course Operations program at LCCC recently received a federal grant for \$23,000 to purchase needed equipment.

A movie that centers around a golf course is being filmed on Rolling Hills Country Club in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. "Caddy-

shack" has an impressive lineup of comedians including Chevy Chase, Rodney Dangerfield, Ted Knight, Bill Murray and Michael O'Keefe. Producer Doug Kenney said that he wanted to make a movie about his caddy days at Indian Hill Country Club in Chicago.

The Florida Municipal Golf Course Association has been officially formed, according to an article in the "South Florida Green". The purpose of the association is to foster a general relationship, and an exchange of ideas, procedures and operations to benefit municipality operating golf courses. Any interested party can contact Bill Haycock, Dubsread Golf Facility, City of Orlando, 549 West Par Street, Orlando, FL 32804.

The FFR Cooperative in W.

Lafayette, Indiana has released "Plush Kentucky bluegrass. Plush was developed from germplasm from the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station. According to the registration notice in the Nov./Dec. 1979 issue of "Crop Science", Plush is a moderately low growing, leafy, turf-type bluegrass with medium texture, good vigor, persistence, density and aggressiveness, and medium green color. It has demonstrated good resistance to stripe smut and moderately good resistance to leaf spot and stem rust.

M. L. "Bud" Rader, formerly the golf course superintendent at the Wichita CC has joined Robison's Lawn & Golf, based in Kansas City. Rader will be calling on accounts in the western half of Kansas. Robison's line includes Cushman, Jacobsen and Rainbird plus many other maintenance and supply items.

The Davis Division of J I Case Company has changed its name to

J I Case Light Equipment Division. Products will now sell under the Case name. Vibromax is also being discontinued and will be replaced by the Case name. The Case Light Equipment Division is based in Wichita, Kansas.

Boots Hercules Agrochemicals Company has announced that technical acid and 2,4-DP will be offered in addition to Nitroform slow-release fertilizer, as part of its line of turf and horticultural products for 1980. MCPP and 2,4-DP are produced by The Boots Co., Ltd., of England. Nitroform ureaform nitrogen (38-0-0) has been manufactured and marketed by Hercules Inc., of Wilmington, Del., for nearly 20 years.

Philip Taylor has been named general manager, service, for Jacobsen Division of Textron Inc. He will be responsible for administration of domestic and international service for consumer and turf products, including warranties, training, and manuals and other service publications.

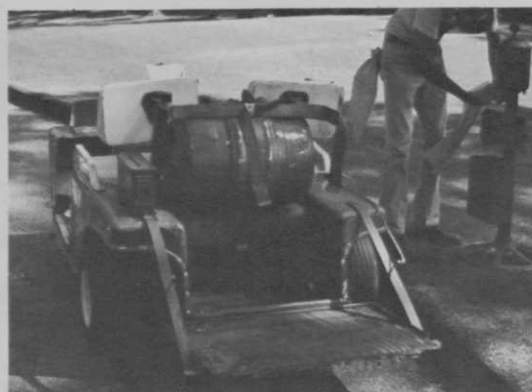
Idea file

Ball washer maintenance the fast and easy way

By Buzz Howell, Superintendent
Athens Country Club
Athens, Georgia

Changing the water in ball washers is a time consuming job. With the piece of equipment we have put together at Athens CC, one man can change the water in ball washers on 18 tees, put out clean towels, and change the tee markers in about an hour and a half. If we add changing cups to that, it takes a little over two hours.

We took a 10-year-old E-Z-Go golf car, removed the bag racks, and stripped it down. Behind the regular seats we mounted a 15-gallon beer keg which had been disposed of at the club house. We bought a Jackrabbit hand pump with



two rubber hoses, one for intake and one for output.

When changing the water in a ball washer, we pull the cart up alongside, drain the old water from the washer, put the hose from the beer keg in the washer and crank the pump. In less than 30 seconds, the washer is full. Then we add the detergent and change the towel. The man will change the tee markers on the same route.

During the summer months, when we change water three times a week, this saves a lot of time. During the winter we drop back to once or twice every two weeks because we're not getting the same volume of play. The equipment makes this a quick, efficient trip.

We had used a plastic jug in the past and it proved awkward. We tried the hose from a snap coupler on the irrigation system at each tee and the pressure was too great. It was a messy situation.

This is also a gimmick that motivates a man to do a good job. Plus he has everything he needs on the cart. One filling of the tank will do all 18 of our washers. We have the medium sized Par Aide models. This piece of equipment solved a problem for us and now, instead of a chore, the job is easy.