RESEARCH

University builds turf research facility

The University of Maryland is updating its turf research facility in both the field and laboratory. Construction has begun for a new 38-acre Turfgrass Research and Education Facility in Silver Spring.

Dr. Peter Dernoeden says work should be completed in April on the office/equipment storage building and the pesticide/fertilizer storage building. An irrigation system will go in this summer.

“The facility really greatly enhances our field research capabilities,” Dernoeden says.

One building will house a new computer system that Dr. Mark Welterlen will use to monitor environmental factors, such as temperature and moisture, on the growth of turf.

The Maryland Turfgrass Council and the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station cooperated in purchasing the system, which cost $28,000. The Maryland Turfgrass Association, representing sod producers and installers in Maryland, also put $1,000 toward the system.

In addition to the field research facilities, the Maryland Turfgrass Council and the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station also provided funds for the renovation of a turfgrass analytical laboratory located at the College Park campus.

PEOPLE

Leading architect passes away at 71

George W. Cobb, 71, one of the country’s leading golf course designers for the past 30 years and a Fellow of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, died in Greenville, S.C. on Jan. 16. Among his other accomplishments, Cobb designed the first six golf courses on Hilton Head, S.C.

Dale Amstutz of Northern Lawns, Omaha, has been elected president of the Nebraska Professional Lawn Care Association. Vice-president is John Skomal of Custom Lawns, Omaha and secretary-treasurer is Richard Penn of Lawnco of Lincoln.

Russell J. Frith, president of Lawn Doctor, Matawan, N.J., has been named to the board of directors of the Professional Lawn Care Association of America. He is also chairman of the PLCAA’s membership development committee.

Paul Bergman of Centra-Chemical Services, Hastings, has been elected president of the Nebraska Turfgrass Foundation. Randy Nelson of The Greenkeeper, Omaha, is vice-president and John Hadwick of Grand Island Municipal Golf Course is secretary-treasurer.

Allen Keesen Landscape, Denver, has promoted John H. Gates, Eldon J. Dyk and Carl M. Nagel to vice-presidencies. Gates will be responsible for Denver landscape construction and Dyk for the maintenance division.

Professional Golf Association Tour commissioner Deane Beman has been named 1986 winner of the Donald Ross Award by the American Society of Golf Course Architects.

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