SAND, SAND EVERYWHERE...But not a drop to use. Most golf courses in Hawaii use manufactured sand because of a 1975 state law prohibiting use of natural coral sands from the beaches. The other alternative is to use volcanic cinder in greens. "Sands are not all the same," says Charles Murdoch, Ph.D., of the University of Hawaii.

SAME THING WITH TURF...Not only is sand scarce in the islands, but so is sod. Hawaii has only about 25 acres in sod production for the entire state. Many new turf varieties must be quarantined for up to two years before they can be brought from the mainland to the islands. Sugar cane is susceptible to the same viruses as turf, and it would take just one virus to wipe out the entire crop.

NEBULUS NEMATODES...It appears that the pest-fighting nematodes which infect Florida housecrickets is a different, previously unidentified species. Grover Smart, Ph.D., of the University of Florida's entomology department told the Florida Turfgrass Conference that research proving the nematode's identity will be released shortly.

CONGRATULATIONS...Gayle Jacklin, domestic marketing representative for Jacklin Seed, Post Falls, Idaho married Scott Ward on December 5. Ward is a management-trainee with lumber/paper company Boise Cascade. Gayle will use the last name Jacklin-Ward professionally.

BALANCING THE BUDGET...Marvin Gross, owner of Marvin's Gardens, Sarasota, Fla., has a favorite term when it comes to balancing the old budget. The word is "wobble-ate," and it means doing some fancy fudging of numbers when appropriate. From what was said at a panel session presented by the Associated Landscape Contractors of America, most landscape contractors are adept "wobble-ators."

A PERFECT FIT...Golf courses and homebuilding go hand-in-hand, as housing developments are proving across the land. According to the Urban Land Institute in Washington, D.C., a residential lot located on a golf course is worth up to 50 percent more than a "no golf" alternative.