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## SPOTLIGHT ON S.T.R.I.

Greenkeeper is pleased to report that the Sports Turf Research Institute have received a donation of \$12,000 from Titleist/Acushnet, the American ball manufacturer. Last year the R&A generously made a grant to the S.T.R.I. so they could look into the question of the golf ball's actions on turf, which had been prompted in no small part by the investigations of Nick Park whose article "Spin the Critical Question" (Greenkeeper July '83) highlighted how little was known about the ball's behaviour once it hit the turf.

Last September a student, Steve Haake, from Aston University, under the supervision of Dr. Alastair Cochran the R&A's balls & implements expert, commenced a three year programme into the interaction between ball/turf. However, the S.T.R.I. found themselves short of some vital equipment which is where Acushnet came to the rescue. No doubt the makers of the Titleist ball used by so many leading players will be surprised by the findings when the research is complete. It is certain to change a great deal of current thinking.

## LINKS EXPORT

In an exciting development Golf Landscapes of Brentwood have been asked to advise on the establishment of a Links in Northern California close to the world famous Pebble Beach and Cypress Point courses. To be known as the "Links at Spanish Bay" it is the brainchild of Links-loving Tom Watson and Sandy Tatum former President of the U.S.G.A.

Howard Swan, Golf Landscapes Director has already made one visit to the site, where work is underway, to advise on grasses and top soil. It is hoped that the Company will sign a Management Contract to appoint the Course Manager and Assistant for an initial year period. Commenting Howard said "I am particularly pleased that Britain has been recognised not only as the home of golf but of the golf links as well. The key to the success of Spanish Bay will be the implementation of a true links management programme. So it will largely be a question of exporting out turf management skills to the U.S., happily reversing the trend of recent years."

## GROUNDSMAN OF THE YEAR

The Institute of Groundsmanship have opened up their annual competition to all comers, the details appear on page 15 of this month's issue. Greenkeeper was delighted to be asked to assist in promoting the competition, and given our excellent readership we are sure it will be a Greenkeeper who will win — So don't delay, enter right away!

## P.G.A. PROMISE

In the letter to Greenkeeper George O'Grady, Managing Director of P.G.A. European Tour Enterprises Limited has kindly drawn our attention to a couple of points concerning the Tours connection with I.C.I. Professional Products. They are that P.G.A. European Tour Enterprises Limited is "the marketing arm" of the Tour and not in anyway connected with the P.G.A. and thus not concerned with the recent amalgamation discussions. That "the excellent image of the Tour gives I.C.I. Professional

Products a chance of greater visibility in the market place" and that "we do not wish to direct training policies or procedures but do wish to either help research or to help individuals take advantage of current research". No doubt the Greenkeeper Training Committee will be knocking on Mr O'Grady's door very shortly.

## MAN ON THE MOVE

David Jones Vice President of E.I.G.G.A. has been appointed by Country Club Hotels to the post of Course Manager at St. Pierre Chepstow.

David who was previously at Purdis Heath, Ipswich will have the first European Tour tournament to contend with when the Epson Grand Prix is staged at St. Pierre from 8-11 May.

We wish him well and trust that his new appointment will still leave time both for his E.I.G.G.A. duties and to write further for Greenkeeper in his well known lively style.



## HERE COMES THE MOWERS BUT WHERE'S THE GRASS!

You can be sure it's there somewhere underneath all that snow and you can also be sure that it's still growing. The picture above seems a long way removed from warm spring days and fresh mown grass but, just as the grass keeps growing, so Turf-land Professional Equipment Ltd keeps working to ensure adequate stocks of machinery and spares are maintained to offer a service second to none. The Brouwer Gang Mowers, imported from Canada by Turf-land Professional Equipment Ltd, are the most popular PTO mowers on the market. The versatile units come in

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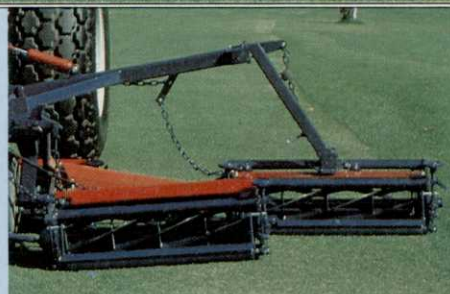
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