



JUPITER, Fla. — The National Golf Foundation/Bank One VISA Card, now has a special toll-free number (1-800-338-3993) to better serve customers.

Bank One will send a contribution to the NGF upon application approval. An additional contribution will be made with each card usage, enabling customers to support the NGF's golf research and market development programs. Other benefits of card ownership include: 24-hour travel service with 5 percent cash refunds; lost golf equipment and luggage reimbursement; auto rental discounts and access to a Quick Notice Vacation Hotline for information on special vacation discount packages.

A nonprofit golf research and market development organization, the NGF is supported by more than 5,000 members of the golf industry. Included are golf course architects and builders; national and state golf associations; course owners and operators; sponsor companies; individuals; and the major golf companies.

Golf Digest News and Information

★★★The average age of the 88 champions at the time they won their Open titles is 29.7

★★★The lowest U.S. Open 18-hole score is 63, by Johnny Miller, winner at Oakmont in 1963, and Tom Weiskopf and Jack Nicklaus in the opening round at Baltusrol. The lowest 72-hole score is 272 by Nicklaus in 1980.

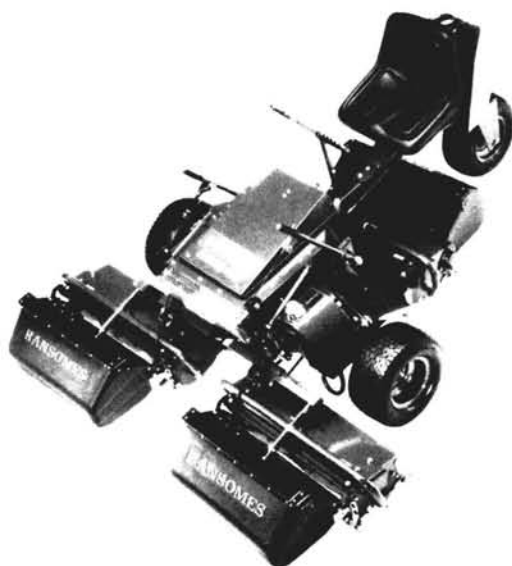
★★★New York has produced the most Open champions: Walter Hagen (Rochester), Jerome Travers (New York City), Craig Wood (Lake Placid), and Ed Furgol (New York Mills).

★★★Two towns claim the most Open winners: St. Andrews, Scotland (James Foulis, Fred Herd and Laurie Auchterlonie) and San Diego (Billy Casper, Gene Littler and Scott Simpson).

★★★Arnold Palmer, who had to qualify for this year's Open, has played in all five previous national competitions at Oak Hill — the 1949 U.S. Amateur, 1956 and 1968 U.S. Opens, 1980 PGA Championship and 1984 Senior Open.

★★★The oldest U.S. Open champion was Raymond Floyd, who was 43 years, nine months and 11 days old when he won at Shinnecock Hills in 1986. The youngest was Johnny McDermott, who won the first of his two consecutive Open titles in 1911 at Chicago Golf Club when he was 19 years, 10 months and 14 days old.

★★★Scott Simpson (1987) was the first Open winner since Lloyd Mangrum (1946) to wear a mustache.



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Red Thread A Disease on the Increase

by Dr. Noel Jackson
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, RI

Dr. Jackson's update of the red thread disease situation featured the following points.

—Five years ago we thought we knew all there was to know about red thread. Not so!

—Turf of low vigor (similar to dollar spot) is susceptible, especially fine fescues (red fescues more than Chewings (fescues) and perennial ryegrasses. Bermudagrass is susceptible to pink patch too. Ryegrass cultivars differ in susceptibility.

—Recent evidence indicates that more than one fungus is involved. Corticium has been studied in detail, but there are at least two fungi involved — one causes red thread and one causes pink patch. The two diseases are similar and easily confused, one for the other. Often a disease complex — red thread/pink patch — are considered as one disease.

—Infection starts usually at leaf tips as small spots develop. These spread down the leaf. Fungi have pink mycelia that are easy to see. Cool, wet weather favors the development of the fungus. Compact masses of fungi produce a resting stage which gets darker red as it dries and becomes hard and brittle. Also, little cushions of mycelia are produced. There is a fruiting stage that produces two to four spores. These germinate to produce more mycelia. Turf grown under low fertility is more prone to infection but even vigorously growing turf can become infected. At times the fungus may act like snow mold under snow cover in the winter.

—The fungus may work on living tissue as a parasite or on dead tissue as a saprophyte. Some symptoms differ; patches may not produce dark red thread-like mycelia. More than one fungus may be working together at the same time under some conditions. The fungus glues or mats the leaves together so the pink appearance is more conspicuous.

—Pink patch fruits with only two spores. Mycelium is clamped and fluffs out in culture. Red thread produces less mycelia in culture and has a simple septa that is not clamped.


—Control of the two fungi with chemicals varies —

- cadmium good for both;
- daconil good for red thread;
- benomyl good for pink patch;
- bayleton good for both;
- chipco 26019 good for both.

A New Deer Repellent

Highly perfumed soap may be the hottest new way to repel deer from forest trees according to an article in the "American Agriculturist".

Use highly perfumed small bars of soap such as those used in hotels. The cost ranges from two to five cents per bar. Leave the wrapper on the soap, drill a hole through the soap and wrapper and hang it on the tree at browsing height. Use cheap, insulated copper electric wire to fashion a hook. For best results, hang the bar of soap on each young tree in the block. Soap has been found to be effective for four to six months or longer, depending on the weathering factors and size of soap. The wrapper helps retain the odor and keeps it from weathering too fast.

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