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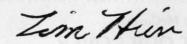


President's Message

The Florida Golf Course Superintendent's Association has been very active and productive in 1980. At our most recent board meeting a state logo was adopted and soon will be seen on our stationery and blazers. We also had the opportunity to meet with G.C.S.A.A.'s president, Mel Lucas, and discuss how their plans and philosophies relate to the F.G.C.S.A. Attendance at this board meeting was strong and very encouraging. Your chapter presidents and vice presidents are to be commended for their dedication and outstanding contribution toward strengthening our state association and its chapters.

October will be a busy month for golf course superintendents and their affilitates in the turf industry. The Florida Turf Grass Association conference and show will be held in Gainesville from October 19-22. In accordance with our By-Laws, the Florida Golf Course Superintendent's Association will hold its annual meeting at that time.

The board and I look forward to personally meeting you and discussing our association's objectives. You should make plans now to attend these annual functions and receive their many benefits.



The Florida Green

The Official Bulletin of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association Florida Green Phone: (305) 793-0069

TIM HIERS......President

Sun Tree Country Club

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ABOUT OUR COVER

Left to right: Tim Heirs, G.C.S. Suntree C.C.; Mel Lucas, president, G.C.S.A.A.; Gilli Flamnio, chairwoman, Member Volunteers, Suntree C.C.; Ken Boozer, golf pro, Suntree C.C.; Harold Stabb, president and general manager, Suntree C.C.



Dan Jones, C.G.C.S., Editor
Banyan Golf Club



Dave Baily Atlantis Country Club Associate Editor



Harry McCartha Henderson & McCartha Photography

Contributing Editors:

Hubert E. (Al) Frenette
Peachtree G.C., Atlanta, Ga.
Fred V. Grau, Ph.D.
President, The Musser Foundation
Paul R. MacDonald
Johns-Manville Corp.

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"Mr. Green Committee Chairman"



Paul D. Cato, Jr.

by PAUL D. CATO, JR.

President Colonial Country Club

President, Colonial Country Club, Fort Worth, Texas

OR THE LAST three years, I have been green committee chairman at Colonial Country Club, in Fort Worth, Texas, the home of the Colonial National Invitation Tournament. This is a golf-oriented club, with over 40,000 rounds played each year. Golf has been good to Colonial, and the Board feels strongly about the continued improvement of the course. Over the last three years, more than \$400,000 has been spent on golf course improvements, including a new automatic irrigation system and pump station, a new and efficient maintenance building, a new 10,000 square foot putting green, a new design and construction of the par 3, 13th hole, a new 16,000 square foot bentgrass nursery, and all our asphalt cart paths were relocated and replaced with concrete.

In 1977, Paul Cano, our golf course superintendent, retired after a 42-year career at Colonial. Replacing him was very difficult, but during this process I gained tremendous respect for the profession of golf course superintendents. We interviewed several men for the job, and I can truthfully say that every applicant was extremely qualified, proud of his profession, and

interested in improving himself. With this background and experience I do not consider myself an expert, but I have learned just enough to develop some opinions. So the following thoughts are the way I see it as Mr. Green Committee Chairman.

Most clubs are judged by their golf course, its layout and condition. Country clubs were created primarily for golf, and members need to understand the importance of their golf course. If it were not for the course. the clubhouse, tennis courts and swimming pool would probably not have been built. It follows that the green committee should be one of the most important and most active in the club. With this understanding, it puts great importance on the selection of a green committee chairman. In my opinion, a chairman should meet the following qualifications:

- 1. He must be an active golfer (not necessarily a low handicapper) and enough a student of the game to have a working knowledge of the Rules of Golf.
- 2. He must be a fair, understanding and flexible person who has enough maturity and self discipline to recognize that he is not an agronomist.

- 3. He must be a man who has easy access to the Board of the club, probably as a member of the Board. This enables the Board to be kept up-to-date and to be in a position to understand and explain the activities on the course to members. An informed Board is easier to sell on budget or the need for additional capital expenditures.
- 4. He must be a man who has time to give to the job and a great pride in the golf course.

The other committee members should be basically like the chairman. They need to be chosen by the chairman, or at least approved by him. The committee must have very good communications. I recommend a small committee, three people or less, and in many cases only a chairman without a committee. Meetings with the superintendent are held at all times in many places, and this makes getting a large committee together very difficult. The chairman and superintendent should have regular meetings while they inspect the course.

The green committee chairman should help the superintendent with his budget and with policymaking problems. The green committee chairman has a good feel for the pulse of the club's thinking and of its financial condition. He should work closely with both operating and capital expenditure budgets. The operating budget should be updated every six months to better relate to the changes constantly occurring on the course. Most of these changes will be in labor, since this makes up about 70 percent of the operating budget.

I feel that the large turnover rate in the labor force is a major problem on most golf courses. Part of the reason for the problem is the low wage scale set up by many clubs. It is increasingly difficult to find good men to work the odd hours, often under less than comfortable conditions. You get what you pay for! It is not good business to put expensive equipment and a valuable golf course in the hands of low-priced, unskilled labor. With the equipment technology in the turf industry improving daily, our golf courses should be able to do more with less people, but it will mean that each workman must be better qualified.

When you have good management, you do not have surprises. This is especially true on your capital expenditures. It is essential to have good records on maintenance equipment and to be realistic about its estimated life. Be certain that your Board knows when your large dollar needs will occur. The green committee chairman and superintendent can hurt their credibility with large emergency needs in capital expenditures.

The green committee chairman and his committee should demand a high degree of maintenance on the golf course. The superintendent is responsible for the manner in which the golf course is maintained. He should not have any doubt about what condition the Board and green committee chairman expect. He must know the standard set down by the Board, and along with this responsibility, he must have authority and complete control over his crew and equipment. The green committee chairman and his committee cannot nit-pick the golf course. They must judge the superintendent and his organization on the complete job. The superintendent and his crew must try to view the course and its condition as the green committee chairman and club members see it.

There must be a close relationship between the green committee chairman and the golf committee chairman, just as there should be a close relationship between the superintendent and the golf professional. Communication and mutual respect is essential or the club will be the loser. The superintendent and the golf professional must pursue the same goal -"The playing condition of the golf course!" I strongly recommend that these two men have regular meetings on the course so that each man can better understand the other's problems. A well-informed golf professional can be a great public relations man for the superintendent. I believe that for such things as hole locations, tee marker location, and width of fairways, the superintendent must have the cooperation of the golf shop for the good of the club.

The superintendent must have a calendar of all scheduled golf events

The superintendent must have full schedule of events so there are no surprises.



(Continued on Page 8)

at the beginning of each year, and course maintenance needs must be considered when making the calendar of events. For instance, it is bad to find the greens aerified the day before a big club tournament, simply because the superintendent wasn't notified. At times of adverse weather, this line of communication is also very important. I feel that the superintendent should have a complete authority over whether golf carts are to be permitted on the course and when play is to be kept off the course because of freeze or frost. Other closings of the course should be by mutual decision of the superintendent and the golf professional. If they don't agree, then the green committee chairman and the golf committee chairman must step in and do what is best for the club. The green committee chairman and superintendent must never forget that the main reason for the golf course is to accommodate the members.

The green committee chairman and superintendent have a commitment to the club to maintain the philosophy and character of the golf course. All major changes must be approved by the Board. The green committee chairman's job is not to rebuild the course the way he wants it. The green committee chairman and superintendent can and must pre-vent changes such as: the greens changing shape, loss of hole locations, bunker changes in their depth or shape, uncontrolled tree growth, or changing of green contours. I recommend annual photographs of the golf course so that it does not change in front of our eyes without our noticing it. Hiring a qualified golf course architect is often beneficial in maintaining your philosophy in course character. An architect can also be of great assistance in rebuilding and making major changes when they become necessary.

What does a green committee chairman expect from his superintendent?

The superintendent must have confidence in the green committee chairman and he must be extremely loyal to the chairman. The chairman must never hear of something the superintendent says from another source; it must be said directly to the chairman.

The superintendent must be organized, have the ability to handle men, and be tactful enough to handle members. He must have goals, both long and short range. His standards

for maintenance should be high, with extreme pride in the golf course. He must be a leader of men and must be able to delegate responsibility.

The superintendent, like the green committee chairman, should play golf and be knowledgeable about the Rules of Golf. He must know how to define the hazards correctly and realize the importance of these hazard lines being maintained. He must have ability as a mechanic, and with his work on budget, planning and purchasing, he needs to be a good businessman.

It goes without saying, but he must be well-founded in principles of agronomy. He must keep abreast of new developments in the industry. The green committee chairman can help by making sure the club sends the superintendent to state and local turfgrass conferences, the annual GCSAA International Turfgrass Conference and Show and the USGA Green Section Annual and Regional Meetings. The superintendent then accepts the responsibility to attend all sessions and gain as much knowledge as possible to bring back to the club and his organization.

The superintendent must have an open mind to the fast changes in the industry. He should also have a good nursery of both his green and fairway grasses where he can experiment before gambling with them on the course. The superintendent cannot be afraid to say, "I don't know," or "I was wrong." Excuses, alibis and blaming others will cause the green committee chairman to lose confidence. No superintendent can afford for this to happen. The industry has a lot of specialists who are willing and able to help, such as the USGA or the outstanding universities in our country. A good superintendent will make use of all technical resources available to him

As Mr. Green Committee Chairman, most of the reward comes in your own mind and the pride you have in the changes, or lack of changes on the golf course . . . and in a member saying, "I have never seen the course in finer condition."

This address was made at the USGA Green Section Regional Conference at Irvine, Texas, in 1978.



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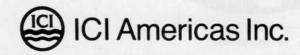
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BUDGET SAVING IDEAS

By BRAD G. KOCHER

During the last couple of years prices of goods and services have increased annually at the rate of 10-15% according to government surveys. Somehow, according to some of my personal surveys, we are paying 20-33% more in as short as a 12 month period for some goods.

Gas and oil prices are probably the biggest culprit directly or indirectly because of the compounding effect that fuel increases play in the U.S. economy. For example, a manufacturer buys an item for \$3.00 and lets say he does no further processing and tacks on 20% to the next distributor, who then adds 20% to the retailer, who adds 20% to the consumer. A \$3.00 item now costs \$5.18. Now, if the manufacturer at the beginning is charged an additional \$0.10 for higher shipping costs on that item, his base becomes \$3.10. We then add 20% to distributor and the cost becomes \$3.72. This continues from distributor to retailer to consumer each adding \$0.10 because of their shipping increases. The final price is now \$5.61. The price has now increased from \$5.18 to \$5.61. The compounding is realized because if \$0.30 (acutal fuel increase is \$0.10 for manufacturer, distributor and retailer) were added to \$5.18 the price would be \$5.48. Instead \$0.30 worth of additional shipping costs due to fuel increases has been transformed into \$0.43 in increases to the ultimate consumer. What was a 3.3% increase to the manufacturer is now an 8% increase to the consumer.

I do not profess to be an economist. However, I do believe that some figures are misleading and that in making comparisons whether it be fertilizer, chemicals, new equipment or parts, I have seen 20-33% increases in the last 16 months. Gasoline has increased 56% from July 79 to July 80.

Many superintendents are finding themselves with budgets prepared last year expecting 8-12% price increases, and are saddled with the problem of trying to keep figures in line for the remainder of the year, when actual increases are in the 20%-33% range.

I have talked with many superintendents on how they are coping with this problem and what methods are being used to reduce costs. Hopefully, by sharing this information all of us can benefit by the ingenuity of some of our fellow superintendents.

Almost everyone is using better methods of determining gas usage. Gas sheets are being used to monitor consumption and in some instances each department in the club has a key or card that unlocks the pump and registers exactly how much gas is used per department. Close monitoring can show what piece of equipment or what department is getting out of line.

(Continued from Page 12)

More extensive use of non-selective herbicides such as round-up or paraquat to edge traps or edge around trees. If traps are chemically edged four or five times a year it reduces the vast amounts of labor it takes to edge a trap manually three or four times a year. Roundup around trees, if done neatly, can cut back on the use of rotary mowers or weedeater use.

The use of Sencor/MSMA combinations for goosegrass control is a big savings in both labor and pesticide cost. Prior to the now very popular use of Sencor, we would average six applications of MSMA at 3 lbs. ai/A. We now use two applications of Sencor/MSMA combination (1/8 lb. ai of Sencor plus 2 lbs. ai of MSMA per acre). Comparing herbicide costs: approximately \$35.00 per acre for six MSMA applications, \$12.00 per acre for 2 Sencor/MSMA applications. This does not take into account the labor and machine time for four extra applications and the fuel savings.

If a 70/30 or 80/20 topdressing mix is used, mix it with equal parts sand. Sand is far cheaper per ton than topdressing and when the two are mixed 50/50 it substantially reduces topdressing cost. Another method of saving when topdressing is using straight sand.

Ken Nicholson at the Woodlands has reduced his waste removal expense with the purchase of a chipper. He feels the \$3,200 expense for the chipper will pay for itself in a year's reduced waste removal expense. He has presently

reduced from six to four the number of 30 yard dumpsters used per month.

At Tamarac Country Club, Charlie Petzoldt has converted his power metering from seven meters to one meter for the whole club. He states the club is realizing substantial savings in power bills.

Mowing practices are another method of cost savings. Some superintendents are mowing areas less frequently, others have changed mowing heights. At Inverrary, we have raised the rough height from $1^1\!\!/_4$ to $1^1\!\!/_2$ and have reduced mowing frequency from five times monthly to four in the summer months. This alone is a 20% reduction in labor and machine time with no reduction in quality.

One superintendent is reducing his overseeding rates by 20%. On an average 18-hole course with 130,000 square feet of greens, and assuming previous seeding rates of 30lb/1000 square feet, this will amount to approximately \$650.00 in savings in seed alone.

By sharing ideas and exchanging suggestions among superintendents, we can all benefit by reducing cost without sacrificing quality. We should all be aware that members or owners have to be able to afford the maintenance methods and the standards to which we maintain golf courses. The more efficient we become in times of rapidly rising costs the longer our country clubs and golf oriented facilities will survive and be able to serve the needs and desires of our nation's golfers.



WHAT'S INSIDE ITABET

If you're hardnosed about business decisions, you want to get the in-depth facts on a product before you buy. That's why we've put together this head-to-head comparison between the insides of an E-Z-GO and a Cushman. We took comparable top-of-the line models, E-Z-GO's GT-7 and the Cushman Turf Truckster. Here's what we found.

Power Source: 18 horsepower OMC engine, tightly compartmentalized. Ground speed 0 to 22 mph.

Braking: Hydraulic internal expanding.

Payload: 1000 pounds.

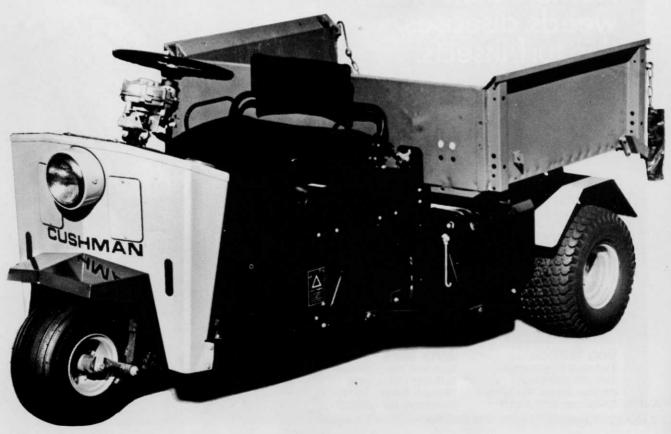
Suspension System: Torsion bars, leaf springs, front and rear shocks.

Dump Construction: Single wall.

Headlights: Single.

Seating: Single seat for one passenger with back rest and hip restraint.

Price: Virtually the same.



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Braking: Improved hydraulic internal expanding.

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Suspension System: Heavy duty torsion bars, leaf springs, front and rear shock absorbers, designed to support the bigger payload.

Dump Construction: Heavy duty diamond plate steel with rugged rear bumper for heavier loads and longer life. Easily convertible to flat bed.

Headlights: Dual lights for greater night vision.

Seating: Dual seats for two passengers with individual back rests and hip restraints, constructed for larger men, greater comfort.

Price: Virtually the same.

Summary: E-Z-GO carries a greater payload, is easier to maintain, is larger, more durably built, and safer with a wider wheel base. E-Z-GO uses top quality components from companies such as Bendix, Borg Warner, Dana, Onan, and Rockwell International.



Responses to April Editorial

The Toro Company Minneapolis, Minnesota

Mr. Dan Jones Editor South Florida Green

Dear Dan:

I've just read your thoughtful editorial in the April issue of "South Florida Green." My congratulations!

You obviously have touched on a subject that is vital to future high quality care and maintenance of golf courses and other turf facilities. No doubt our service department (as well as Jacobsen's) may take exception to your comment that we have "let the golf industry down." For, in fact, both have training schools and during the past several years have made substantial progress in training distributor service personnel and in many cases, superintendents and turf students. Our group have plans for expanding this activity and they will, no doubt, apprise you of these plans.

An area which you did not touch upon, but which needs to be pointed up, is that of potential trainees. There is, I believe, a major problem of locating individuals receptive to training. Perhaps the problem may be one of making the potential trainee aware of the opportunity. Not unlike the situation with potential superintendents two or three decades ago. In the early to mid 50's when the problem of "too few qualified superintendents" was recognized, GCSAA responded. The name of the organization was changed, benefits, advantages and compensation — job benefits — were promoted. And, scholarship programs were set up. Then, the educational institutions responded. You know the result.

The lack of candidates may be another manifestation of the antipathy many of our young people seem to have for the trades. Or, it may be a lack of knowledge with respect to the job benefits, or just insufficient motivation at the junior high and high school level; or, a combination of these and other reasons. But, whatever the case, in order to solve the problem the entire turf industry must work together to develop programs that will alleviate the current problem.

Perhaps the golf course superintendents association at the state and national level could assume leadership in this area. For example, why not scholarships for mechanics as well as (or perhaps even in place of) the current scholarship programs for turf students? As far as I know, Lake City is the only school directing efforts specifically toward training of mechanics. However, many of the vocational schools have small engine maintenance courses. These could be expanded to include mechanic training for other areas if the need is recognized.

Once trained, holding on to a good mechanic becomes a challenge to the superintendent because of the potentially higher paying opportunities in the automotive and related areas. But, first let's find the trainee and work together to solve the problem. Thank you again for your usual thoughtful approach to a real problem.

Warm regards,

James R. Watson Vice President

Dear Mr. Jones:

I recently read the editorial in *The South Florida Green* magazine dated April, 1980, regarding training for golf course mechanics.

The Toro Company agrees with your editorial comments regarding the need for trained, qualified golf course mechanics. As recently as just this past April, The Toro Company's training teams spent two weeks at Lake City Community College participating with the training of future mechanics and future turf grass managers. Toro had a similar session in the fall of 1979 at Lake City Community College. The subjects covered were hydraulics, hydrostatics, basic electrical troubleshooting, reel and rotary mower theory and sharpening techniques. The Toro Commercial Products Distributors for Florida were also involved in these in depth sessions. Zaun Equipment, Hector Turf and Gulf Shore Turf Supply had customer mechanics attend the second week of training at Lake City Community College.

The Toro Company is committed to training our market place personnel. The training efforts are top priority, to include a separate training department in the Commercial Products Division, a factory training center, and a long term commitment to support our customers product education needs. In the past three years, Toro has introduced many training and troubleshooting manuals to support our commercial customer, such as:

- 1. Hydraulic Test and Troubleshooting.
- 2. Sharpening and Adjustment Procedure for Reel and Rotary Mowers.
- 3. Maintenance Clocks for scheduled maintenance of Toro Commercial Products.
- 4. Accessory Manual for Commercial Products.

Mr. Jones, this is just the start of the training effort by The Toro Company. The results of technical product training, Distributor Personnel training, and customer education is a long term project and hopefully the results will benefit you and all other Turf Management personnel, mechanics, etc.

If I, or our Commercial Distributors may be of any assistance to you, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Chuck Alsdurf Manager, Commercial Service Commercial Products Division Mr. Chuck Alsdorf The Toro Company 8111 Lyndale Avenue South Minneapolis, Minnesota 55420

Dear Chuck,

The Toro Training School sponsored by Toro and Zaun, and conducted at Lake City Community College this past April was an overwhelming success. Your training team of Dale Atkinson, Mike Bina, Tom Dooley and Fred Greening was outstanding, They represented Toro in a most professional image with their classroom and shop presentations. You would have been extremely proud of them.

This type of presentation will not only help our students to better understand your products but will greatly benefit those "front-line" mechanics in the field who are going to determine the future of golf course maintenance as we know it today.

If it is at all possible and economically feasible to continue this type of session on an annual basis, we would welcome this type of industry relationship.

Thanks for your part in making this happen. Your continued interest and support of our program is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jerry H. Cheesman, Director School of Golf Course Operations Lake City Community College

Edgar (Ed) Combest, Instructor School of Golf Course Equipment Mechanics Lake City Community College

Interview With

Jerry Cheesman

By DAVID BAILEY

Lake City Community College is the leading higher level institution in the state for producing golf course superintendents. It is also nationally recognized for its School of Golf Course Equipment Mechanics. Jerry Cheesman, director of Golf Course Operations, discusses the following issues.

What is your enrollment policy?

Cheesman: We accept 40 students per year. We would like to have 20 with a turf emphasis and 20 for mechanics. We do not fill our quota of mechanical students. Thus we fill the remaining openings with turf students.

How many mechanical students apply?

Cheesman: Generally about 10. Here is the major problem. That total itself is too small and probably six of the 10 will

switch to the turf program after one year. So we actually produce only around four mechanics per year.

There is a separate mechanical program?

Cheesman: Yes, we give a certificate for mechanics only.

Do all golf operation students take mechanics?

Cheesman: Yes, all turf students do. The program is for two semesters. Landscape students do not take this program. Some of our early turf students did not have the mechanical exposure and have come back after graduation to receive this important knowledge.

How can the college overcome the mechanical recuiting problem?

Cheesman: We need to recruit at the high school level more "mechanic shop" oriented people. We need to work the leading vocational schools for this student. We do not need a strong scholastic oriented student. Lake City needs to place advertisements in high school journals targeted to make this student aware of us and the job being done here.

How can the superintendents help?

Cheesman: Local and national associations tell us they need mechanics. It's rated the top problem in the field. I challenge the associations themselves to work the local schools. Inform students there is a program at Lake City and a good job when they leave Lake City. Superintendents are good salesmen at budget time. The mechanic's image, position and salary must be upgraded to keep trained people in the business.

How should local associations recruit at the local high schools?

Cheesman: Send good speaking superintendents to the schools with appointments arranged ahead with the principal and shop instructor. Show quality slides of the beauty of a golf course, the equipment to be worked, and stress the dependable job status and importance. We can no longer have underpaid mechanics and then wonder why we have a problem. Go for the top mechanical students and count on paying them just that way!

Tell about Lake City's facility for mechanics.

Cheesman: We have as good a staff as there is in the country. We have an excellent shop with over \$250,000 in equipment and parts inventory. If you want to learn about golf course mechanics this is the place to come.

If a golf club wanted to send a mechanical student to Lake City what would it cost and what is the time factor? Cheesman: Total housing, school meals, fees, and books will cost about \$2,500. The time span would be from August to July for a mechanics certificate.

What do you see in the future for golf course mechanics? Cheesman: The age of hydraulics makes the mechanic even more important. The technical knowledge must be there and applied daily. In the future the equipment will have computer analysis. This will tell the exact problem. Ten years from today the mechanic will need equipment and knowledge we do not now have. We must have progressive people for these times.

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EVERGLADES CHAPTER MEETINGS

OCTOBER 19-22Florida Turf-Grass Assoc.,
Gainesville
NOVEMBER 3 (Tuesday)Naples Beach Club
Golf Course, Naples
DECEMBER 1 (Monday)Country Club of Naples,
Nanles
JANUARY 6 (Tuesday)WORKS Irrigation,
Punta Gorda
FEBRUARY 3 (Tuesday)DeBra Turf Equipment,
Ft. Myers
MARCH 2 (Monday)Burnt Store Golf Course,
Punta Gorda
APRIL 7 (Tuesday)"Poa Annua Golf Classic"
MAY 5 (Tuesday)Port Charlotte Golf Course,
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Florida Turf-Grass Association

Cowboy hats, a "rodeo" and western barbeque are setting the mood for the Twenty-eighth Annual Conference and Show of the Florida Turf-Grass Association.

This year, the Association is "returning to its roots", the University of Florida, adding increased emphasis on research and education.

The dates are October 19-22 and the location is Gainesville, Florida. The educational sessions will be held on the University campus and highlights a "hands-on" lab followed by the Research Update Section on Monday. Additional educational sessions precede a tour of the turf plots to conclude the program on Wednesday afternoon.

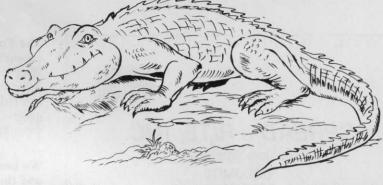
Turkey Creek Country Club will host the Annual Scholarship and Research Golf Tournament on Monday morning and a full-day exhibit-show, with equipment "rodeo", is planned for Tuesday at the Alachua County Fairgrounds.

Conference Chairman Dr. F. A. Wood, Dean for Research, announces that a repeat performance by Ron C. Frame, noted authority of personnel/motivational problem-solving, is scheduled for Sunday, October 19 in a special presentation.

For more information contact: FT-GA Executive Office, 1520 Edgewater Drive, Suite E, Orlando, FL 32804 or telephone 305/425-1581.



The Gator Growls



from
The Everglades Chapter

From the activity in our area which extends from Venice to Naples no one would ever know there was recession in the land.

Les Hixon moved from Sarasota's "men only" Gator Creek down to The Plantation. It is a new Ron Garl 18 hole course built by Master Links Golf Builders of Jacksonville in Punta Gorda. The irrigation system is Toro Varitime and Southern Turf did the grassing.

Greg Dent, assistant superintendent to Mark Welby at Ft. Myers Palmetto Pines, moved down to Naples to become Mark Hampton's right-hand at Naples' newest, Wynedemere C.C. This will be a very exclusive 27-hole country club in the midst of an expensive single family home and condo development by Livingstone Enterprises. Art Hill is the architect. Wadsworth Golf Construction Company is doing the earth work and installing the Toro irrigation. Southern Turf is grassing greens and tees in 328 and fairways and roughs in 419. Hampton and Dent are planning a December 1, 1980 opening. Mike Reynolds from Dorado Beach Hotel, Puerto Rico, is the golf professional. Marc Tallmadge, a recent Lake City Community College graduate is the new Selby assistant.

Stan Norton is completely revamping the front nine of Naples Beach Club with Ron Gail as the architect. Master Links is doing the construction and installing the Toro irrigation system. Gerry Milholden again lined this one up for Southern Turf. They are putting 328 on greens and 419 on tees and fairways. Stan must have this ready for Florida Senior P.G.A. play in October and it looks as if he is ahead of schedule.

Bill Flippen at Naples Hole in the Wall is having Wadsworth install a complete new pump system in advance of next years plans to replace the present electric irrigation system with Toro hydraulic.

Lloyd Sheehan, prominent Naples developer, again has his Fisherman's Cove project before the city and county boards. His plans are for a fine 18 hole golf course and 750 living units. The local environmentalists claim this will be more polluting than the original plan of 3900-plus living units. Ward Northup of Delray is the architect and to date no construction bids have been let.

A group of Ft. Myers golfers and prominent businessmen have retained Ed Seay and Arnold Palmer to design and build a private 18 holes in south Ft. Myers. This is now getting clearances from the water management boards and the E.P.A. Wadsworth has the inside track on this one due to their work with Seay and Palmer at Skidaway Island in Savannah, Georgia.

The 36-hole Corkscrew Golf Complex Art Hill plans on building southeast of Ft. Myers near the new I-75 leg is up for landclearing this winter. Wadsworth and Southern Turf will be doing the construction and grassing. This is to be a huge project of private homes, townhouse condos and some high rises overlooking the Corkscrew Wildlife Sanctuary.

Manchester Development Corp. is still doing the preplanning of a 72-hole complex north and east of Naples near the intersection of I-75 and Immakalee Road. Art Hill is the architect, with Wadsworth doing the construction and irrigation.



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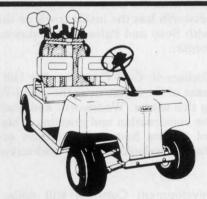


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The Forest Golf Club, designed and built by Bill Maddox, recently put Wayne Lippold in charge as superintendent. Wayne moved from the Bonita Springs Golf Course to the Swor & Mancini project south of Ft. Myers in time to put in the irrigation and supervise Southern Turf's grassing . . . greens are 328 with the rest of the playing areas 419. Opening is scheduled for January 1, 1981.

We hear the now defunct Marco East project is being sold and the three-quarters finished golf course is to be the first phase ready.

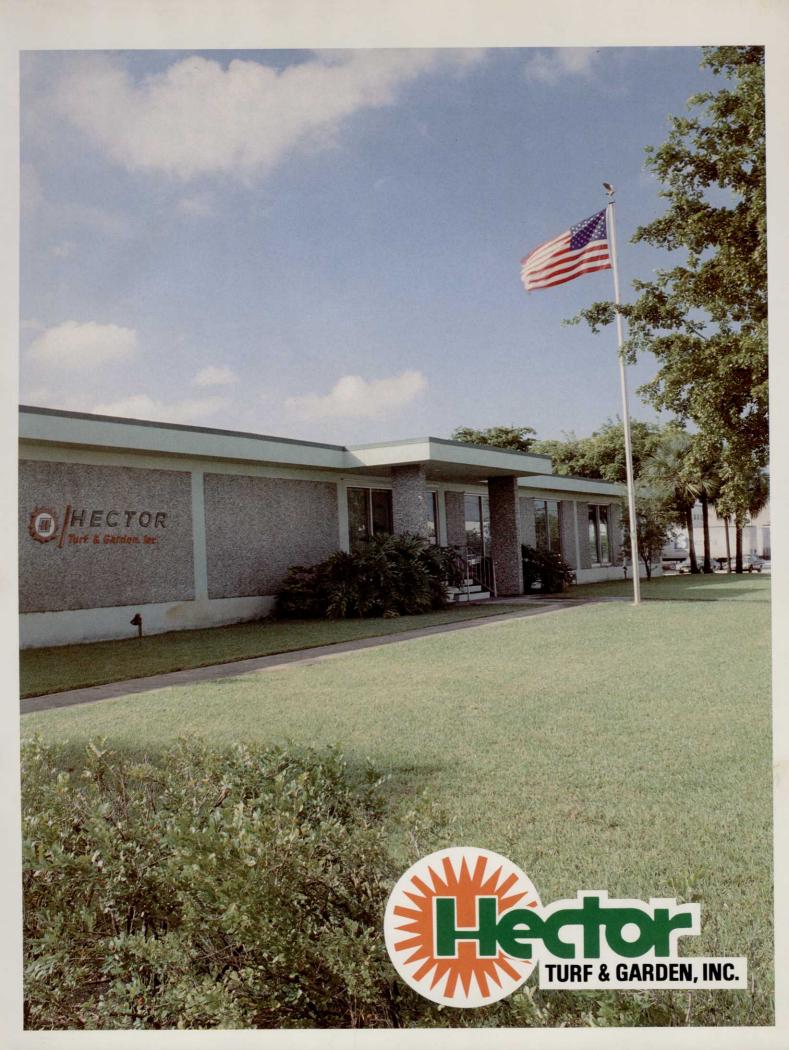
Here in our area we just went through the driest April-May-June on record with no rainfall in June until 1-inch fell the last day of the month. April and May weren't much better as most courses got less than 3 inches those months. Many of us had curtailed water use due either to the lack of it or fear of salt water intrusion. In addition our northern friends didn't start home until around Mothers' Day. Due to drought most herbicide applications were either reduced or stopped all together. With just tees and greens being watered, mole crickets really moved to the moist areas for breeding and egg laying.

As yet the golf industry in our state has not been able to get consideration for the control of this pest. Many superintendents returned to Dasanit for nematode control due to its effectiveness on mole crickets. Dasanit is even more environmentally harmful than either Dieldrin, Aldrin, or Chloradane when they are properly used. Paradoxical isn't it?

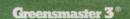
The E.P.A. is now considering the removal of both 2-4-D and Kerb from the Florida turf market. Without means of controlling mole crickets, weeds and Poa Annua, we might be on the path to the Florida courses of the 40's and early 50's before the use of properly used chemicals became in widespread use. With over 2 million golfers playing nearly 700 courses state wide, it seems as if we would have a lot more clout in Tallahassee and Washington. Golfers are primarily in the upper levels of community influence and income and, more importantly to the lawmakers, most of them are voters!

Talked with Dr. Max Brown of Liquid Ag a few days ago and was told they are installing nearly 100 new units statewide. Seems this is becoming a very useful tool in our profession. I can vouch for its effectiveness as we just installed one on our new Imperial West 18 and it is doing a fine job here. So well that we plan on another next year when our completely new irrigation for the east course is installed by Wadsworth. Our pump station is designed to give us both energy and water conservation as well as ideal distribution of the water.

We also have a new assistant here at Imperial, J. Mark Black, a 1980 graduate of Lake City C.C. Mark has previous experience in the work having been with a nursery during high school and junior college. He got interested in the golf business after working for Jim Ellison at Bay Hill for a couple of years, then went on to L.C.C. His OJT projects were at Paul Hickman's Grenelefe in Haines City and Robert Walter's Harbor Town on Hilton Head, S.C.



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Talked with reps of Zaun's, our Toro dealer, and DeBra's Jacobsen dealer and both are hard pressed to make exact delivery of new equipment. Seems like the people at Toro and Jacobsen listened to the economic forecasters and reduced their output. This was without regard for the boom in the Sunbelt areas of the country. More and more of our northern friends are leaving the colder parts either on a full time or part time basis and moving towards warmer areas.

I read just this past weekend the Scottsdale-Phoenix, Arizona area expects to reach the 2.5 million mark in population by 1990, less than 1 million reside there now. Florida and other coastal areas in the Sunbelt can expect as much or maybe more of an increase. These people are all golf prospects and what with land and construction costs, the E.P.A., energy shortages and increased maintenance costs it looks as if the golf course superintendent is going to become a more significant person in the golf course chain. Designers and builders need be more aware of their work in regards to the finished product years down the road. Talked with a couple of greenchairmen recently and the past three to four years they have spent more money on correcting design and construction faults, especially in irrigation, trap design and drainage than they have in all other capital improvements throughout the entire club. What with labor running as high as ten cents a minute and more, it is ridiculous to maintain traps and greens by individual hand labor. The superintendent should be considered and given a voice in the very early stages if the owners want an economical operation down the line.

Jud DeBra told me they are in the process of making available diesel engine inter-changes up to the 20 HP range. With gasoline expected to hit \$2.00 per gallon by January 1981 the energy efficient diesel even at \$1.25 to \$1.50 per gallon is greatly needed in the low H.P. requirements. Some superintendents are into converting from gas to L.P. fuels.

Mack Bough at Longboat Key in Sarasota couldn't buy gas this past winter and has been converting to L.P. with successful results. Clint Smallridge of Royal Poinciana in Naples is working with an experimental L.P. conversion unit that costs about one-third the present cost. This project looks real money saving as L.P. is in the .70¢ - .85¢ range in bulk. Even though normal auto version runs 15 -20% less power at peak loads, this doesn't seem to be the case on the hotter running air cooled engines. Anyway these superintendents are on the right track and the manufacturers should recognize the final cost of a piece of equipment shouldn't negate their making available equipment with engine options. Initial costs shouldn't govern the purchase price, its operating costs and effectiveness over its life are more important.

Speaking of our area equipment suppliers, let's give a word of praise to both DeBra and Zaun for their greatly improved parts service. For years we've all been complaining but within the past six months shipping has been so much better it's time we should say thank you and keep up the good work. As our members are quick to complain but few are gracious enough to compliment. So from your Everglades Chapter customers, thanks for the improvements you have made that makes us able to do a better job.

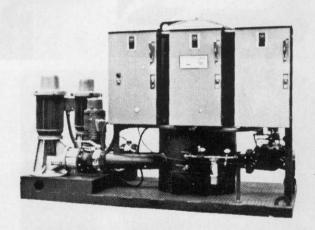
Jacobsen and Toro both held factory service schools at Lake City C.C. and the word is that both were highly informative as well as completely filled. In talking with a few mechanics they stated that they learned as much from fellow mechanics as they did from the factory men; especially along the trouble shooting line. I hope these sessions were recorded as tapes available with these comments would be a fine tool to use and I'm sure they would be much sought after as such.

Tolby Strahan at the Jack Nicklaus designed Bear's Paw course in Naples is looking real good and customers have been playing the front 9 even though not yet officially open. His hand-mowed Tifdwarf looks super and putts even better. The back 9 looks ready but minor finish work is still underway. Late summer or early fall ribbon cutting is planned.

Roger Whitford really put the Pelican Bay course in fine shape pretty quick and with his Penncross overseeding on hand-cut Tifdwarf did he ever make our winter visitors feel at home, super fast surfaces right up into middle June.

Well, the Gator has growled and bellowed long enough for now, hope to see all of you at F.T.G.A.'s meeting in Gainesville.

> Superintendent Imperial Golf Course Dan L. Hall Jr., for the Everglades Chapter



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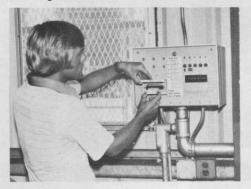
Photos by Harry McCartha



Photos by Harry McCartha

(Photos continued on Page 34)

Pompano Beach Golf Facility Becomes Computerized









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Steve Baeumel, superintendent, is shown inserting equipment card and employee card and odometer reading in computer terminal at his facility.

Insertion of the two cards will allow fuel to be pumped and pertinent data will be recorded in the computer center downtown.

At right, Steve is shown with Jack Fessenden, manager of Data Processing, Division of Finance, City of Pompano.

In January of 1980, the City of Pompano Beach installed the Octane - 3 fuel dispensing system at the Public Works Compound, the Police Garage and the Golf Course Maintenance Building.

The Octane - 3, manufactured by E.J. Ward, Inc. of San Antonio, Texas, allows employees to fuel their vehicles with the use of their employee card and the individual equipment card. By following the correct procedures, fuel is dispensed and data is automatically put into the central computer at City Hall.

Daily reports are then sent to the proper departments showing the vehicle that was fueled, amount of fuel dispensed, employee number and mileage. Monthly reports are also issued showing additional data.

Future plans call for instituting total vehicle maintenance history into the computer system as well as using the employee cards to replace time cards for payroll purposes, etc. This new system has aided the golf course management in fuel inventory, and statistical information on equipment. With fuel costs as high as they are today, the Octane - 3 has proved to be an effective management tool for energy conservation.

Photographic Report by Harry McCartha

NEW OFFICERS SOUTH FLORIDA CHAPTER



Left to right

Paul Turcotte, City of Miami; Ken Nicholson, Woodlands Golf Association; Brad Kocher, Inverrary Country Club; President Dick Lemmel, Doral Country Club; Alan Weitzel, Metro Dade County and Neil Kalin, Pembroke Pines. Not shown is Phil Ammann of Bonaventure Country Club.

WHO IN THE WORLD PUT THAT HOLE THERE

By FRANK D. TATUM, JR. Member, USGA Executive Committee

The Open had reached its most dramatic moment. As Jack Nicklaus crouched over an eight-foot putt on the 12th green at Pebble Beach, Arnold Palmer hunched over an eight-footer on the 14th. Nicklaus needed his putt for a bogey 4, Palmer needed his for a birdie 4, and if Arnold made and Jack missed, Palmer would lead the Open by a stroke.

Both tapped their putts at about the same instant, and both putts ran practically straight at the hole. As everyone with any interest in these things knows by now, Nicklaus holed and Palmer missed, and Jack won his third Open.

What some spectators found a bit unusual or unexpected, was the paths of these putts. They had not expected them to run so straight. Their experience with other tournaments had conditioned them to expect holes to be cut in hillsides, behind bunkers or next to creeks, in places where only a lucky putt goes in or a lucky shot ends up in birdie range. They came prepared to condemn the man who put the hole there as some kind of fiend.

They should not. He deserves not condemnation but pity. He is up before daylight, ready to start setting the holes as soon as light will permit. His early start expresses his concern that the players with the early starting times will have an equal opportunity with the late starters to see how the course is set up. He struggles with intense care to get it right. If he succeeds, he is blissfully ignored; if he fails, recognition is immediate, universal, bombastic and blasphemous.

I do not seek sympathy for these men. Theirs is a vital function. They can emasculate a great design, or they can accentuate its greatness. To assume such responsibility necessarily includes accepting its consequences. Like bad art, there is too much bad pin setting afflicting the championships to combine the art and the science of locating the holes so as to bring out all the qualities of the course on which they are played. Hopefully, the principles applied by the USGA will be useful to others who squint into the rising sun hoping to find that small plot of good grass and terrain in the right part of the green for that day's play.

The first principle is to be fair. Never pick a placement that will not fully reward the properly struck shot played from the right position. The hole setter, therefore, must not only appreciate the design of the hole, but he must also weigh such factors as weather, wind direction, and firmness of the turf, and determine in advance how that particular hole will play on that particular day. He must have done some planning. In a four-day championship, for example, this

means he must have analyzed the course and generally determined the four areas on each green providing hole locations appropriate for the particular tournament. He must then plan his practice round settings to that those areas will be preserved for tournament play.

He should set up a balanced course for each day's play. A common error is to set up the course to play progressively more difficult each day by using all the easiest pin placements on the first day and proceeding progressively to all of the most difficult settings on the last. This tends to distort the course, at least on the first and last days. In a four-day championship the USGA will evaluate each of the four areas preplanned for each green, rating the most difficult as 1, the easiest 4 and assessing a 2 and a 3 for the intermediate areas. Each day's setting process involves planning to avoid something like an "18" course (i.e. 18 number 1 settings) on the one hand, or a "72" course (i.e. 18 number 4 settings) on the other. The optimum for each day

(Continued on Page 28)



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(Continued from Page 25)

would be a "45" course, and the effort each day is made to get as close to that number in the total course settings as conditions that day will allow.

There are other balance factors to be considered, such as avoiding too many left side, right side, front or rear settings sequentially.

After a particular area has been selected for a placement on a given green, care must be given to picking the right spot. Here too a number of factors should be weighed. The USGA recommends at least 15 feet between the hole and green edge. Ideally, for a radius of 3 feet around the hole there should be no changes of slope. This does not mean that such area must be flat; it rather means that there should be no change in the angle of slope over the area. The angle of slope, too, is an important factor. There have been instances where holes have been set on slopes so severe that as the green dried out it would not hold a ball. One occurred in a recent regional amateur competition where one contestant 7-putted (!) a green and the tournament winner took 4 putts there.

The area around the hole should be as free as possible of ball marks, other blemishes and changes in grass texture. It is right around the hole where the ultimate action takes place; the particular spot should be selected with commensurate care. The location should "look" right. Care should be taken to avoid placements which, from the player's point of view, present a distorted picture. Golf is a visual game, and the ultimate vision is of the location of the hole.

To assess the player's point of view, the person setting the hole should bring along a putter (and, hopefully, a reasonably respectable stroke) to roll the ball at the selected spot before the hole is cut to assure that it will, in fact, play properly.

Perhaps pity is not what the poor pin setter deserves. He experiences the quiet beauty of a superb golf course shimmering in the early morning light. And if he does his job properly he will have planned and worked and placed the hole so that it will add the final touch to the artistry of the course designer and of the shot-maker; so doing should be deeply satisfying.



The turf around the hole should be in good condition, free of imperfections that might change the direction of a rolling ball.

CROWFOOT OPEN HUGE SUCCESS

The Fourth Annual Crowfoot Open golf tournament medalist honors were won by Fred Klauk, Boynton Beach. Klauk, a University of Florida agronomy graduate, is the superintendent of the famous Pine Tree Golf Club in Palm Beach County. Pine Tree is rated by Golf Digest among the top 30 clubs in the nation. The victory was not easy. Klauk won in a playoff over Ron Hill, CGCS, Amelia Island Plantation. Both players scored a one under par 71 at the Suntree Country Club, Melbourne.

The Crowfoot Open trophy was won by the West Coast Association. Using the Calloway System, their winning score was established at five under par. The victory margin was a mere stroke over both the Everglades and North Florida teams. Palm Beach was two shots off the pace in fourth place.

North Florida won the low gross team chapter event. Ron Hill was helped by teammate Robbie Robbins, Gainesville C.C., and Allan Stoffel with 75's. Both Bobby Ward, Ponce DeLeon C.C., and Fred Kleinfelder, Innlet Beach G.C., scored 76.

The commercial low gross winner was Ron Clayton of E-Z-Go. He carded a fine 73. Penninal commercial winner Sonny Smith of Superior Fertilizer won on the Calloway System with a 71.

As in past years, the real story of the Crowfoot Open can be summed up in two important words: hospitality and organization. The hospitality of the members and management of the Suntree club make this tournament unique. Melvin Lucas, president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, said it best. "I had to come down from New York when I was invited just because of what I heard from last year. This is certainly a great event." The organization of the host Central Florida GCSA is superlative. This year the event chairmen were Daniel Aylwin, New Smyrna Beach C.C., and Jim Ellison, Bay Hill Club, Orlando.

New Officers — Palm Beach Chapter



Left to right

Bill Wagner, Tequesta C.C, Vice President External; Mark Jarrell, Palm Beach National, Director; Otto Schmeisser, Everglades Golf, Past President; Fred Klauk, Pine Tree Golf Club, Director; Kevin Downing, Atlantis Golf Club, Vice President Internal; Billy Wright, Boca West Golf Club, President; Stan Carr, Gulfstream Golf Club, Director; Bill Kreigel, Delray Beach Country Club, Treasurer; Steve Pearson, Boca Lago Golf Club, Secretary.



Jimmy Blackledge Motivated Turfgrass Research in Florida

By DR. ROY A. BAIR



Dr. Bair

Jimmy first visited the Everglades Experiment Station branch of the University of Florida at Belle Glade in 1946. At that time we had some 1700 grasses and legumes from all over the world planted in 10×5 ft plots. Although these had been acquired primarily to find plant species which would put South Florida in the cattle business, Blackledge pointed out that many of the grasses were low growing types which ought to be mowed and evaluated for lawn and golf course usefulness.

When he then donated a greens mower and a park mower we replanted a hundred or so grasses in a separate turfgrass nursery and began to mow some of them daily, others once a week.

Dr. Fred V. Grau of the USGA Greens Section then entered the picture by extending a modest grant of money and by sending us all the bentgrass varieties then available. By 1950 we had a total of 408 grasses in our plots under a regular mowing schedule. These included 120 bermudagrass strains, 60 bents, 20 zoysias, 17 St. Augustinegrasses, and 11 bahias. The large number of bermudagrasses was the result of our spending many self-financed weekends visiting golf courses to look for volunteer strains of the seeded grass which appeared to be "different".

By this time we had also accomplished our primary mission of finding grasses for South Florida cattle. There were now 40,000 head in Palm Beach County, as contrasted with fewer than 1000 ten years earlier, mostly because of the usefulness of the new Pangolagrass and Roselawn St. Augustine.

As a direct spin-off of the grass testing program for cattle, and Jimmy Blackledge's encouragement, we were able in 1950 to release several new turfgrasses which for a time (Continued on Page 31)



March, 1946. James L. Blackledge and Dr. Roy A. Bair at Everglades Experiment Station, Belle Glade, Florida, standing on land planned for more turfgrass experimental plots.

were improvements on the old Arizona seeded bermudas:

For lawns
Roselawn St. Augustine
Paraguay Bahia
For golf courses, bermudas
Greens
Everglades 1
Everglades 3
Bayshore
Fairways
Ormond

Several years later Gainesville released one of the St. Augustine bitter blue accessions from our Belle Glade nurseries, giving it the name "FLORATINE". We obtained this in the mid-forties from the Blossom Estate in Palm Beach.

Several "Firsts" may be of historical interest:

1946. The first ANNUAL TURFGRASS FIELD DAY was held in Belle Glade at the experimental grass nurseries in October.

1946. Before 2,4-D was given this abbreviated name we reported killing creeping charlie (matchweeds) and water hyacinths with it — the first use of this herbicide in Florida.

1947. TROPICAL TURF TIPS, probably the first monthly turfgrass publication in the U.S., was instituted in March. An amazing 89 of 100 golf course superintendents who got

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Turfgrass observational plots at Everglades Experiment Station, Belle Glade, 1947.

(Continued on Page 32)



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Strains of Bermuda Grass at the Everglades Experiment Station, Belle Glade, 1947. Left to right: St. Lucie, Davie strain from Davie, Fla; giant strain from Clewiston, Fla.; fine leaf strain from Key West, Fla.; fine leaf selection.

Soil Conservation Service Photo by Paul Tabor

this first edition wrote to request their names be put on a mailing list. Three months later this list had grown to 300.

1947. The First Annual Turfgrass Management Conference was held in Miami Beach in May. Subsquently these yearly meetings were held at St. Petersburg, Jacksonville, and Palm Beach.

1947. At the Indian Creek Country Club, Miami Beach, 206 grasses were planted in observational plots. Several bent-grass varieties lived over two years here.

1948. Before ALDRIN insecticide production was assumed by Shell Chemical, and even before it was named, we reported that on a tee infested with mole crickets at the Belle Glade 9-hole golf course, crickets were killed daily for 30 days following treatment.

1949. At Johnny Schabinger's Palm Beach Golf Club, we reported that TERSAN fungicide gave us more protection against Rhizoctonia fungus on ryegrass winter greens than did four other chemicals tested. We got the same results on the golf course at Belle Glade.

1950. Ammonium sulphate trials on greens at Belle Glade gave slightly better growth responses than did sodium nitrate, uramon or ureaform nitrogen.

Soluble fertilizer applied through greens irrigation proved fully as satisfactory as solid fertilizer applications.

1950. Test plots of up to 100 of the more promising turfgrasses had by now been established also at Ponte Vedra, a cemetery in West Palm Beach, and at branch experiment stations of the U of F at Homestead, Sanford and Leesburg.

ONE REGRET

We released ORMOND bermudagrass because of its immense vitality. If we had known how it would invade greens after planting only on fairways, we would probably have suppressed it.

Possibly 100 superintendents will attend the funeral of this investigator for the purpose of standing in line for the opportunity of planting Ormond on his grave.

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Florida Plows Ahead In 1980

The state of Florida, which for the last decade has been among the nation's leaders in the development of new golf facilities, is up to its tricks again in the first half of 1980.

The Sunshine State, blessed with year-round playing conditions and an estimated 36 million annual visitors, actually shows more development action in the first six months of 1980 than a similar period in 1979 — a year in which Florida led the nation in new openings.

A breakdown of this development for the period of January 1 through June 30 shows the following in new courses or in additions to existing facilities:

- Courses opened 9-hole, 2; 18-hole, 8.
- Courses scheduled to open in 1980 9-hole, 3; 18-hole,
 12.
- Courses that went under construction 9-hole, 5; 18-hole, 7.
- Courses planning to go under construction 9-hole, 2; 18-hole, 12.
- Courses that went into the planning stage 9-hole, 2; 18-hole, 17.

- Larry Smith (Reprint - N.G.F.)

FGCSA BOARD MEETING

The annual meeting of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association will be held at 7:00 p.m. Monday, October 20, 1980 at the Gainesville Hilton in Gainesville, Florida. Reports on the Association and presentation of new officers will take place in the Delta, Beta and Gamma room. All golf course superintendents are encouraged to attend.

The Slate of Officers for two-year terms are Bill Wagner, President, Tequesta Country Club, Kevin Downing, Vice President, Atlantic Golf Club, Inc. and Don Delaney, Sect.-Treasurer, Isle Del Sol Country Club.

On Sunday, October 19, 1980 at 9:30 p.m. the F.G.C.S.A. Board of Directors will meet at the Gainesville Hilton in the Epsilon room. All external Vice Presidents and Presidents should plan to attend this meeting.

Further information can be obtained by calling Tim Hiers, at 305-295-2213 or 305-259-7330



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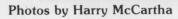
TOP SOIL









































Photos by Harry McCartha



















GOLF COURSE DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Compiled by Halina C. Hjerpe, Facilities Coordinator

COURSES OPENED FOR PLAY

FLORIDA - Naples, PINE LAKES COUNTRY CLUB, 205 Charity Court, 33942. Par-3 18-hole Daily Fee. Opened July 1, 1980. GCA: Arthur Hills & Associates Contractor: The Wadsworth Company. *Chick Parrish/Manager, c/o club.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

FLORIDA - Bradenton, IRONWOOD COUNTRY CLUB, 4500 Cortez Road West, 33505. Executive 9-hole Private Addition. *William Nixon/General Manager, c/o club, RD

North Fort Myers, LAKE FAIRWAYS GOLF COURSE & MOBILE HOME PARK, P.O. Box 4535, 33903. Executive 18-hole Daily Fee. GCA: Ronald M. Garl. *Bob

Brown, c/o course. RD.

Pine Island (Fort Myers), ALDEN PINES GOLF CLUB. 18-hole Private. *Bill Maddox, 9844 Treasure Key Lane SE, Bonita Springs, Florida 33923. RD

Sarasota, MEADOWS GOLF CLUB, 3100 Longmeadow Drive, 33580. 9-hole Daily Fee Addition. *Mike Claton/ Pro, c/o club.

Spring Hill, SPRING HILL COUNTRY CLUB, Coronado Drive, 33512. 18-hole Daily Fee Addition. *Contact club. RD.

PROSPECTS

FLORIDA - Boca Raton, ST. ANDREWS COUNTRY CLUB, c/o St. Andrews Country Club Inc., 1499 West Palmetto Park Road, Suite 410, Boca Raton, 33432. 36-hole Private. GCA: Karl Litten, Inc. *T. J. Johnson/ Director, c/o St. Andrews Country Club Inc.

Collier County, name & location undetermined. Executive 18-hole Daily Fee. *Thomas P. Hoolihan, Seago Corporation, 3340 Marina Town Lane NW, Fort Myers,

Florida 33901. RD

Naples, name, location & type undetermined. 36-holes. *Manchester Development Corporation, 1st National Bank Building, 3401 North Tamiami Trail, Suite 205, Naples, 33940. RD.

St. Augustine, DEEP CREEK GOLF & RACQUET CLUB, c/o Deep Creek Enterprises N V, 12955 Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 100, Miami, Florida 33181. 18-hole Private. GCA: Karl Litten, Inc. *Mike Riise/ Director, c/o Deep Creek Enterprises.

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Golf course superintendents are educated, exceptionally hard-working, goal and result oriented individuals. They have pride in their work and deserve the best of their professional world. This article is a true reflection of dedication to their profession.

UDAY K. YADAV

Jimmy Ellison, the surprisingly young, surprisingly mod Bay Hill course superintendent, thinks of himself as much more than a greenskeeper. He thinks of his crew as much more than common laborers and he thinks Arnold Palmer's lush Bay Hill acres as much more than just another golf course. He believes, as a team, they are headed for greatness.

When you think "greenskeeper", you usually think of a wizened, little man with skin like an iguana's after spending countless summers beneath the sun with hands buried in the soil. A man whose work seems closer to Voodoo than science — who will tell you soon it's gonna rain 'cause his knee is actin' up. Ellison isn't like that.

- A small radio on his desk gives constant updates on the government weather reports. He listens to
 every change with the intensity of a broker hearing the latest stock market report.
- Any course that hosts a PGA Tour tournament wants to look its best. But when your course happens to be owned by Arnold Palmer, best isn't good enough. You've got to be better than the best. "I want a perfected golf course all the time, of course, but especially for the tournament," said Ellison. "Not just a good course, but a great one and Mr. Palmer wants the same thing.

"Our goal," said Ellison, "is to reach the day when people say, 'If you can't play Augusta, you must play Bay Hill.' Maintenance is very important to a great course," explained Ellison. "Take Disney — their course gives you a clean taste because they're so neat. But I think we're the best."

Ellison is the first to admit no golf course superintendent can do it alone. Behind every great superintendent, there is a great assistant superintendent. Behind Jimmy Ellison is Norm Wilson.

"We really have good men working for us," said Ellison. "They are far more than common laborers. They believe in what we're doing, too. They take pride in their work."

He is getting faster greens by having mixed 35 percent of Jamestown Fescue, a winter grass, with 65 percent of Pennfine. It is all highly technical and the ability to produce those lightning-fast greens comes from Ellison's training.

Jerry Greene (Condensed from ORLANDO SENTINAL STAR February 24, 1980)

Editorial

Golf course superintendents are finding themselves in a no win situation as 1980 draws to a close. Inflation is running rampant and budgets are out the window. Cost of supplies are up 15% to 150% (see Brad Kochers' article on page 12) with no relief in sight. How do we cope?

Owners and green committee chairmen must be realistic. They should sit down with their superintendents and have a frank discussion on possible solutions and compromises. The superintendent has got to be an astute businessman and manager. He must go to his accounting department and compare actual invoices from a year ago with today's prices. This is a starting point for discussions with upper management.

Labor is still the number one budget item (60%). New hydraulic equipment can cut labor costs. Other innovative ideas such as not cutting greens on Sunday can be considered. Using curative instead of preventative programs with pesticides can save additional monies.

Where do we go in 1981? Needless to say a meeting of the minds must take place. Inflation is not going to fade away into the night. Either quality of maintenance standards must be adjusted downward or available monies for proper maintenance must be adjusted upward. The decision can not be taken lightly. All concerned parties must participate in searching for answers to this situation.

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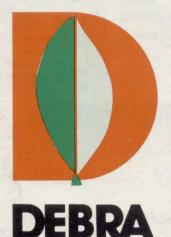
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