

TURF NEWS

ROUNDUP

USGA commits another \$4.1 million for 4-year turf research program

The USGA has extended the turfgrass research program begun in 1982 with a \$4.1 million appropriation for projects to be conducted through 1997.

The money will fund research projects, still to be selected, in plant improvement and resource management. The former includes turfgrass breeding and biotechnology; the latter includes cultural practices, biotechnology and pest management.

A request for pre-proposals will be sent to university researchers next month and final decisions on projects to be funded will be made by the Turfgrass Research Committee in March.

In the final round of awards for the previous USGA program, University of Florida researchers at the Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center received funding for two projects at the FGCSA's Otto Schmeisser Memorial Research Green on the FLREC campus.

Pathologist Monica Elliott is looking for a "good twin" to the evil fungus *Gaeumannomyces graminis* that causes bermudagrass decline.

"The idea is to introduce an organism with all the same characteristics as the pathogenic strain except pathogenicity (the ability to cause disease) and let it colonize the roots and protect the roots from pathogenic strains," she writes. "It's something like 'king of the root' or 'possession is nine-tenths of the law' or 'I got here first!'"

Dr. John Cisar is only a few months away from beginning actual tests of pesticides on the USGA green.

Both researchers said the USGA announcement was "important news," and both expect to submit pre-proposals to continue and expand their current projects as well as undertake new ones.

"It is very important for the USGA to be a leader," says Cisar. "Most of the research money we get is from private sources."

Determining suitable levels of salinity in recycled water would be particularly appropriate for the golf industry, Cisar said, and it's a project that interests him.

"Bermudagrass decline, and the related patch diseases up North, are root rot diseases that are extremely difficult to control," says Elliott. "Even now, chemicals alone do not do the job. It will truly require a combination of cultural, chemical and biological control practices."

Both researchers, professors at the Fort Lauderdale REC, said that state budget cuts have seriously hampered their work.

"They're talking about turning off my lights," Cisar said.

"We need funds to buy the basics like petri plates, media and chemicals," said Elliott.

Among the objectives of the USGA's original 10-year research program was the significant reduction of water use and maintenance costs by breeding new grasses and developing improved cultural maintenance practices.

Two improved turfgrass varieties, NuMex Sahara bermudagrass and NE 84-609 buffalograss are now available for use on golf courses and other turf areas as a result of USGA funding. Much of the background work has been accomplished with the breeding programs sponsored by the USGA and the organization expects more varieties to be released this decade.

During the next five-year phase of the program, emphasis will be placed on developing grasses and cultural maintenance practices that conserve natural resources. New grasses will be sought that require less water, pesticides and fertilizer, and that exhibit other desirable characteristics, including

- ability to survive temperature extremes
- tolerance of non-potable water

ALSO

Three Floridians were among seven golf course architects taken into the American Society of Golf Course Architects. 12

The International Olympic Committee has recognized the World Amateur Golf Council as the sole international federation for golf, making the game eligible to become part of the Olympic Games starting in 2000. 13

The National Golf Foundation reports 72 Florida golf courses in the planning stage. The complete list is on page... 15

- tolerance of alkaline, acid or saline soils
- reduced need for mowing and fertilization

- resistance to diseases, insects, nematodes and weed competition

- tolerance of smog and other pollutants]
- shade tolerance

By extending the funding of the turfgrass research program for a five-year period, the USGA hopes to ensure continued high standards for the maintenance of golf courses while addressing environmental concerns about the protection and conservation of natural resources.

GCSAA donates \$50,000 to USGA turf research fund

As the USGA was announcing research plans for the next four years at the U.S. Open in Chaska, Minn., last month, the GCSAA presented the organization with

grants totaling \$50,000 to help fund research commitments made earlier for 1992.

"We are extremely pleased once again to offer our financial support to the committee," said Stephen Cadenelli, CGCS, GCSAA president. "More important than money, however, is our pledge to take the knowledge gained from this research and disseminate it to those responsible for the management of America's golf courses."

The USGA and GCSAA have worked together on the turfgrass research program since 1983.

GCSAA official testifies on pesticide education, limits

"Golf and the golf course superintendent have a very real interest in reducing pesticide use," said William R. Roberts, CGCS, in testimony before the recent Senate subcommittee hearing on toxic substances and

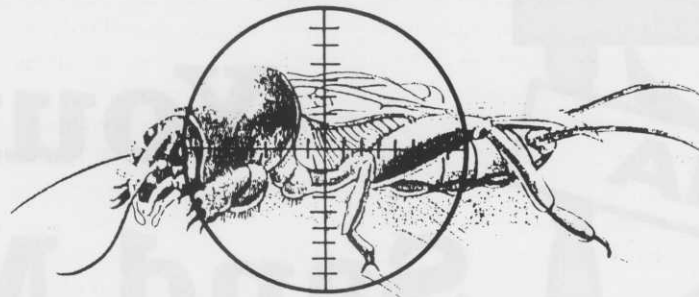
environmental oversight. Roberts, GCSAA vice president, testified on behalf of the association.

In his testimony, Roberts highlighted GCSAA's education programs and the association's stance on posting and pre-notification of pesticide applications. He also reconfirmed GCSAA's "diligence in asking the hard questions and finding the right answers which will lead to a minimalization of overall pesticide inputs to our environment.

Roberts' testimony touched on GCSAA's willingness to work within the regulatory process. The subcommittee was briefed on the public education/public service announcement produced in conjunction with the EPA, "Think Before You Apply," which educates homeowners about environmentally responsible lawn care practices.

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when applying lawn care chemicals. Both spots list a toll-free number (800-858-7378) that viewers may call to receive more information on proper use of chemicals or alternative treatments.

Three Floridians join Society of GC Architects

Three Floridians were among seven architects elected to membership in the American Society of Golf Course Architects.

Michael Beebe of Orange Park was elected to regular membership while James Lipe and Andrew Raugust of North Palm Beach were named associate members.

Beebe, employed by McCumber Golf, has designed Marsh Creek in St. Augustine, The Vineyards in Naples, and Edmonton Petroleum Club in Alberta, Canada.

Lipe, a senior designer with Jack Nicklau Golf Services, includes Melrose Golf Club on Daufuski Island, S.C. ; St. Mellion GC, Cornwall, England; and Pinehurst (N.C.)

National GC among his credits.

Raugust, an associate at Golden Bear International, is credited with courses in California and Hawaii as well as Canada, France and Finland.

Also elected to regular membership were Michael Gleason of Pinehurst, N.C.; David Moote, Brampton, Ontario, Canada; and Gregory Muirhead, Montclair, N.J. Thomas Johnson of Braselton, Ga., is a new associate member.

Noting the international work of the new members, newly elected ASGCA President Tom Clark sees continued growth of the golf course construction industry.

"The demand in the Pacific Rim is so strong that many golfers fly to other countries, even as far as the U.S., to play," said Clark, a partner in Ault, Clark & Associates. "This strong demand, plus locally available financing, suggests the Asian arena will promote new construction for the next few years.

"Spain and other European countries are developing courses almost as quickly as the

Asians," said the veteran architect.

Many overseas projects are managed by American architects, he noted.

In addition to building courses in their own countries, foreign investors, including the Asians, Arabs and Swiss, are providing financial backing for many domestic projects.

Many overseas groups have invested in firms that finance, own and operate golf courses for municipalities and developers, paying a monthly fee for the privilege. These organizations are gaining popularity, according to Clark, because they offer the advantage of financing up front.

Clark sees more courses being integrated in commercial spaces such as industrial parks.

"To build an industrial complex, the developer has to perform the same environmental and wetlands research done for a golf course," he said. "Commercial developers know a course makes a property much more attractive to potential clients... so why not put a nice greenbelt around the site?"



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Golf eligible for Olympic Games in year 2000

The International Olympic Committee has recognized the World Amateur Golf Council, which comprises the national governing bodies of golf in 66 countries, as the sole international federation for golf, making it possible for golf to become part of the Olympic Games.

According to IOC rules, the earliest golf could be included in the games would be the year 2000, for which a site has not yet been selected. The 1996 Olympic Games are scheduled for Atlanta.

Joint chairmen of the WAGC are Gordon B.B. Jeffrey and C. Grant Spaeth, respectively the chairman of the General Committee of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Scotland, and the president of the USGA.

The WAGC shares a telephone number and mailing address in Far Hills, N.J. with the USGA.

Golf had been part of two Olympiads in this century — Paris in 1900 and ST. Louis in 1904.

The WAGC, which was founded in 1958 to conduct international championships for men and women every other year, decided to pursue recognition by the IOC in response to the wishes of many of its member federations.

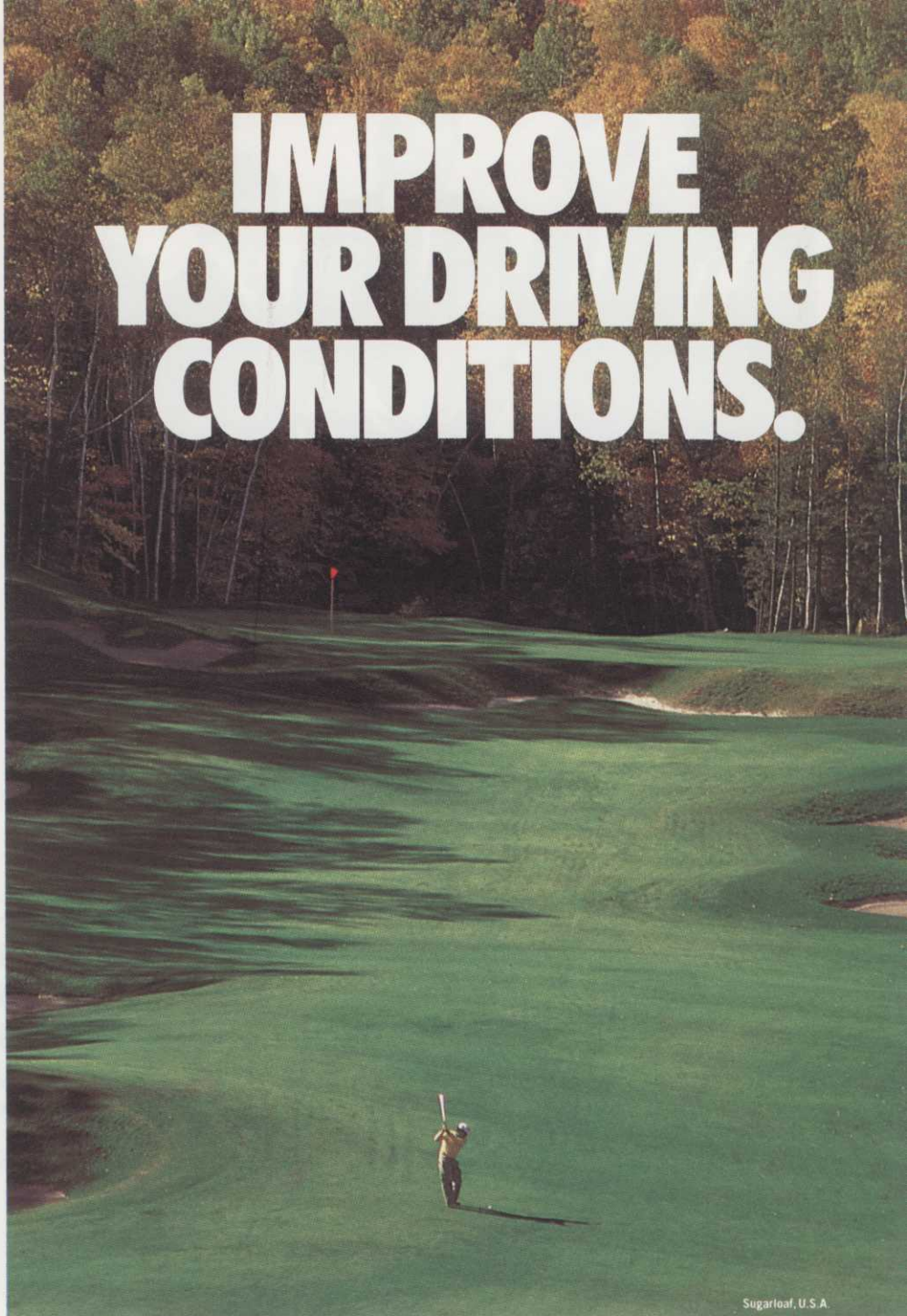
If the IOC places golf on the program of future games, the WAGC will determine the format of the competition and the rules of eligibility of individual golfers under IOC rules. The WAGC will determine, for example, whether the competition will be limited to amateurs.

Ross Award winner warns against standardization, unqualified 'architects'

Golf course developers should be leery of inexperienced individuals trying to pass themselves off as designers, according to Michael Bonallack, secretary of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews and 1991 recipient of the Donald Ross Award from the American Society of Golf Course Architects.

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Michael F. Bonallack, center, secretary of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club at St. Andrews, accepts the 1991 Donald Ross Award presented by the American Society of Golf Course Architects. From left, ASGCA Vice President Tom Clark, Secretary Art Hills, President Dan Maples and Treasurer Jerry Matthews.

public awareness of the importance of golf course architecture to the game of golf.

"Many people have set themselves up as golf course architects without any form of qualification, apart from having been good golfers," said Bonallack in his acceptance speech in Broughton Park, England, at the Society's annual meeting earlier this year.

"That is similar to calling yourself a building architect because you are a skilled bricklayer or carpenter."

Bonallack, one of Britain's all-time great amateur golfers, shared his ideas on the ingredients of a good golf course.

"First, courses should be scenically and naturally beautiful," he said. "Second, courses should not require unusually long tee shots or penalize non-experts with hazards."

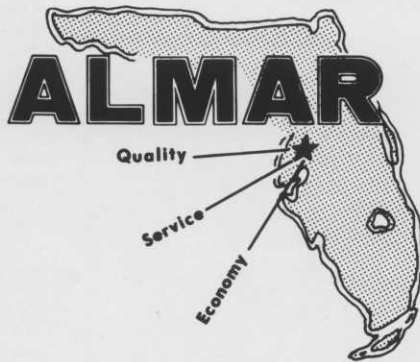
The award winner also said the best-designed courses make the player think.

"Half the fun of playing a classic course for the first time is determining what the architect was trying to make you do on a

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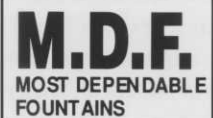
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specific hole and what snares he laid for those who do not think," he said.

Bonallack suggested that fairway bunkers should be used sparingly and strategically placed as close as possible to the perfect line of play, so that by just missing a bunker, the golfer is left with the ideal second shot.

The growing concern with standardization of courses threatens to take the uniqueness and challenge out of a hole, according to Bonallack.

"All greens do not have to be the same speed and all fairways the same width and cut to the same length," he said. "And the rough does not have to be uniformly graded."

Bonallack called on golf's governing bodies to promote individuality in golf course design and construction.

"The distinctiveness of holes and courses is part of what makes golf great," he added. "Unlike other sports' playing grounds, every golf course is different and has its own special attractions which can leave a lasting image on the mind."

USGA intern program to honor P.J. Boatwright

The USGA Regional Internship Program will be perpetuated in memorial tribute to P.U. Boatwright, Jr., in honor of the significant contributions made to golf by the late USGA Executive Director of Rules and Competitions.

The program to assist state and regional golf associations hire interns to help conduct operations benefiting junior golf, public golf and tournament administration was inaugurated this year as a test.

"The introduction of minorities to golf administration and management also remains a prime concern of this program," says the USGA news release.

Requests for 1992 internship grants must come from a state or regional golf association that functions as a non-profit service organization. Students may not apply directly to the USGA.

All requests must be made in writing. Donald Spencer, director of the USGA Foundation, is coordinating the program.

Florida Golf Courses in Planning Stage

Course	Location	Type	Architect
Bonita Fairways	Bonita Springs	Private	Gordon Lewis
Royal Tee CC	Cape Coral	Daily Fee	Gordon Lewis
Fairway Oaks	Clermont	Daily Fee	N/A
Sabal Hammocks	Cocoa	Daily Fee	Clifton-Ezell
LPGA HQ GC	Daytona Beach	Muni	Rees Jones
Crystal Lake CC	Deland	Private	Lloyd Clifton
Polo Club West	Delray Beach	Private	Karl Litten
Polo Trace East	Delray Beach	Private	Karl Litten
Riverwood	El Jobean	Daily Fee	Gene Bates
Forest CC	Fort Myers	Private	Gene Bates
Westwood GC	Fort Myers	Muni	N/A
Fort Walton Bch Muni	Fort Walton Beach	Muni	David Smith
Monterey	Goldenrod	Private	Ward Northrup
Pine Oaks CC	Haines city	Private	Joe Lee
Oak Tree Sports Club	Hawthorne	Private	Ward Northrup
Hampton Hills GC	Hernando	Daily Fee	Marvin Armstrong
Citrus Hills II	Hernando	Private	Palmer/Seay
Southern Woods CC	Homosassa	Private	Hale Irwin
Sugarmill Woods GC	Homosassa	Daily Fee	Tom Fazio
Sugarmill Woods GC	Homosassa	Daily Fee	Jack Nicklaus
Crossings @ Fleming Isl	Jacksonville	Daily Fee	Clyde Johnston
Julington Creek	Jacksonville	Daily Fee	Robert Walker
Glen Kernan	Jacksonville	Private	Jack Nicklaus
Bear's Club	Jupiter	Private	Jack Nicklaus
Lucas Lakes	Kissimmee	Daily Fee	Lloyd Clifton
Lake Village	Lake Wales	Daily Fee	Gordon Lewis
River Ranch Resort	Lake Wales	Daily Fee	Ron Garl
ImperialLakes	Lakeland	Private	Ron Garl
Highlands G&CC	Lakeland	Daily Fee	Ron Garl
Huntington Hills	Lakeland	Daily Fee	Ron Garl
Scandinavian GC	Lakeland	Daily Fee	Ron Garl
Loxahatchee Pines	Loxahatchee	Daily Fee	N/A
Aquarina	Melbourne	Private	Charles Ankrum
Washington Club	Melbourne	Private	P.B. Dye
Old Cutler Bay	Miami	Private	Jack Nicklaus
Cougar Ridge	Mims	Daily Fee	Elder/Madary
Casa Del Sol	Naples	Private	Gordon Lewis
Lely Mustang	Naples	Daily Fee	Trevino/Graves
Livingston Road CC	Naples	Private	Jack Nicklaus
Naples Golf Estates	Naples	Private	Gordon Lewis
Sable Bay Resort	Naples	Daily Fee/Private	N/A
Shamrock G&CC	Naples	Private	Ward Northrup
Southampton	Naples	Private	Gordon Lewis
Bluewater Bay Creek	Niceville	Daily Fee	Jerry Pate
Del Vera	North Fort Myers	Daily Fee	Ron Garl
World Golf & Tennis	Osceola County	Daily Fee	N/A
Trinity Communities	Pasco County	Daily Fee	Denis Griffiths
New River Project	Pasco County	Daily Fee	Mark McCumber
SilverLakes	Pembroke Pines	Private	Dick Nugent
Ft Lauderdale CC South	Plantation	Private	Charles Ankrum
Riverwood CC	Port Charlotte	Private	Gene Bates
Port Orange Muni	Port Orange	Muni	Arthur Hills
Fairway Woodlands	Punta Gorda	Private	Gordon Lewis
Seminole Lakes	Punta Gorda	Daily Fee	Ron Garl
Barefoot Bay GC	Sebastian	Daily Fee	Clifton/Ezell
Sun 'n Lake	Sebring	Private	Charles Ankrum
Silverthorn	Spring Hill	Private	Hoe Lee
Timber Pines	Spring Hill	Private	Ron Garl
Fountains	St. Augustine	Private	Gary Player
Armada Bay	St. George Island	Daily Fee	Gordon Lewis
Green Point	St. George Island	Daily Fee	Clifton/Ezell
Sunset CC	St. Petersburg	Private	Ron Garl
Palm Tree	Stuart	Private	Ron Garl
Summerfield	Stuart	Muni	N/A
Retired Officers Exec	Sun City	Private	Clifton/Ezell
Sun City North	Sun City	Private	Sun City Golf Dev
Sun City South #2	Sun City	Private	Sun City Golf Dev
SummerBrooke	Tallahassee	Daily Fee	Dean Refram
Sandridge GC	Vero Beach	Muni	Ron Garl
Royal Palm Beach Vil	W. Palm Beach	Private	Karl Litten
City Links	W. Palm Beach	Muni	Gary Player
Glen Muir	Windermere	Private	Desmond Muirhead

Source: National Golf Foundation Golf Course Development Quarterly, Summer 1991