

TURF NEWS

ROUNDUP

Florida Golf Council finds a mouthpiece government will hear

If the Florida Golf Council is to become the voice of the state's golf industry, it must have a powerful mouthpiece.

Many golf course superintendents are hoping that the selection of Bobby Brantley, Florida's former lieutenant governor under Bob Martinez, as the council's first executive director will bring credibility and political savvy to the golf trade organization.

Certainly Brantley comes with some impressive credentials.

As lieutenant governor, Brantley also served as Secretary of Commerce and was one of the cheerleaders for the council in its infancy.

He also has served in the state House of Representatives, giving him a roadmap to the halls of the state legislature and the ear of the lawmakers in Tallahassee.

The new executive director knows the problems facing golf courses. Brantley's father-in-law, Frank Moore, developed the Seminole Golf Club in Longwood. In 1972, Brantley became manager of the course, a position he held for 16 years.

Brantley has hit the ground running, meeting with representatives of organizations within golf that call Florida home. He says the success of the Florida Golf Council will be directly related to the cooperation among the different organizations in the industry.

For FGCSA President Ray Hansen, Brantley's selection is none too soon.

"The sooner our side is heard, the better," says Hansen. "With all the chemical restrictions, the water restrictions and the rules we have to contend with, we need to tell our side of the story. If the council has impact with just one issue — effluent usage — it will help. After all, golf courses are asked to take water that is polluted by industry and filter it back into the aquifer, and we aren't the polluters. Yet we have to pay the price for whoever polluted this water.

"I'm glad they picked someone who knows his way around Tallahassee instead of a novice. This will speed up the process," Hansen adds.

Brantley knows there's a difficult job ahead.

"I think that the biggest problem is one of communication," Brantley says. "The industry really doesn't know what is happening across the state that affects its business. For example, the St. John's Water Management District is considering rules on water consumptive use permits, and a section of these rules apply to golf courses. Many people in the industry don't know that their way of doing business will be changed because of water... and every district is looking at new rules on the use of water.

"The council needs to be a clearinghouse, to get this information out, and to assure we get the best spokespeople from different segments of the industry to make presentations to the regulators. The council doesn't need to re-invent the wheel; the experts are already there. But it needs to assure that the studies and the facts are articulated so that our voice can be heard."

Hansen says the "golf course superintendents are 100 percent behind the Council. We were one of the first to give the Council seed money."

"The golf course superintendents are probably the biggest cheerleaders we have," Brantley says. "They have been the most vocal in expressing the views of the industry over some of this rule-making because they are the ones getting hit by the regulations.

"You are talking about the superintendents' livelihoods when you talk about these rules.

"I've been impressed by their association and by how well they present the issues. Basically, the golf course superintendents are saying that they want to be recognized by the regulators. They don't disagree with *what* the regulators are trying to accomplish, but with *how* they are trying to accomplish it. There is another side to the story."



BRANTLEY/ARCHIVES

Bobby Brantley in his 1987 inaugural portrait as Florida's Lieutenant Governor.

ALSO

USGA Green Section, Society of Architects and Golf Course Owners announce major award winners 11

Florida continues to lead the nation in new golf course openings 12

TURF NEWS ROUNDUP

Brantley notes that some golf course superintendents and the turfgrass association members recently met with the St. John's River Management District representatives, and discussed one part of the proposed rules. As a result, changes were made.

"I'm not insinuating that the Council did this directly," Brantley says, "but through this meeting, the district people and the industry people were able to talk things over. The district representatives appreciated this chance to meet."

As far as Glenn Oberlander is concerned, there needs to be much more conservation — and clarification — concerning regulations.

"Right now the superintendent or person involved with the turf industry doesn't know what is happening," says Oberlander, the golf course superintendent at the Plantation Resort in Crystal River.

"Something tells me everyone in the industry is confused because we are having the same seminars all year long and when

If we can help head off some major expenses that would have occurred had a rule gone into effect, then the cost of membership in the Council is well worth it

everyone leaves the meetings, there is still a big question mark.

"Some problems with SARA Title III could have been avoided if they had come to us and talked to us about the effect of the regulations.

"And it's the same way dealing with the water restrictions... they don't make sense. They tell us *when* to water, but not *how much* water to use. If we had had someone talking to the government and telling our side of the water issue, this could be different."

Oberlander adds, "What we need is an opportunity to tell the public and the regulators the good things that golf courses can do."

Brantley continues to emphasize cooperation, but the council also needs money.

"We are basing the membership dues on the courses' annual maintenance budgets," says Brantley, "and I know that for some golf courses, the cost seems high. We are looking at \$500 a year for smaller clubs, with the dues graduating upwards as you get into the larger clubs with higher maintenance budgets.

"But if the Council can monitor what is happening in Tallahassee and get the industry talking to the regulators, then this is a lot less costly than each individual club hiring someone to do this. And, if we can help head off some major expenses that would have occurred had a rule gone into effect, then the cost of membership in the Council is well worth it to the courses in the state."
-Kit Bradshaw

CUSTOM CONCRETE BORDERS

Border Cart Paths... Putting Greens... Flower Beds!



COLORS & CUSTOMS

Call for prices and specifications



Consulting services for paving and drainage problems!

Contact Dell Haverland

Haverland Blackrock Corp.

Boynton Beach, Fla.

Office: 407/369-7994

Fax: 407/369-0535

Excavating • Cart Paths • Drainage

GOLF COURSE RENOVATION

USGA Green Section, Society of Architects, Owners pass out kudos

Dr. Joseph Troll, a renowned turfgrass educator, was presented the 1991 USGA Green Section Award at the International Golf Course Conference and Show in Las Vegas last month.

The award has been presented annually by the USGA since 1961 to recognize distinguished service to golf through work with turfgrass.

During his tenure at the University of Massachusetts, an estimated 1,100 students were graduated from the program he directed. Most became golf course superintendents.

Troll helped establish the Turf Research Center in South Deerfield, Mass., which is active in all aspects of research and testing new grass varieties.

Although he retired from the university in 1988, Troll remains general chairman of the Massachusetts Turf Conference and assists the Northeast Region of the USGA Green Section on its advisory visits.

He was awarded the GCSAA Distinguished Service Award in 1983.

• **Michael F. Bonallack**, secretary of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews

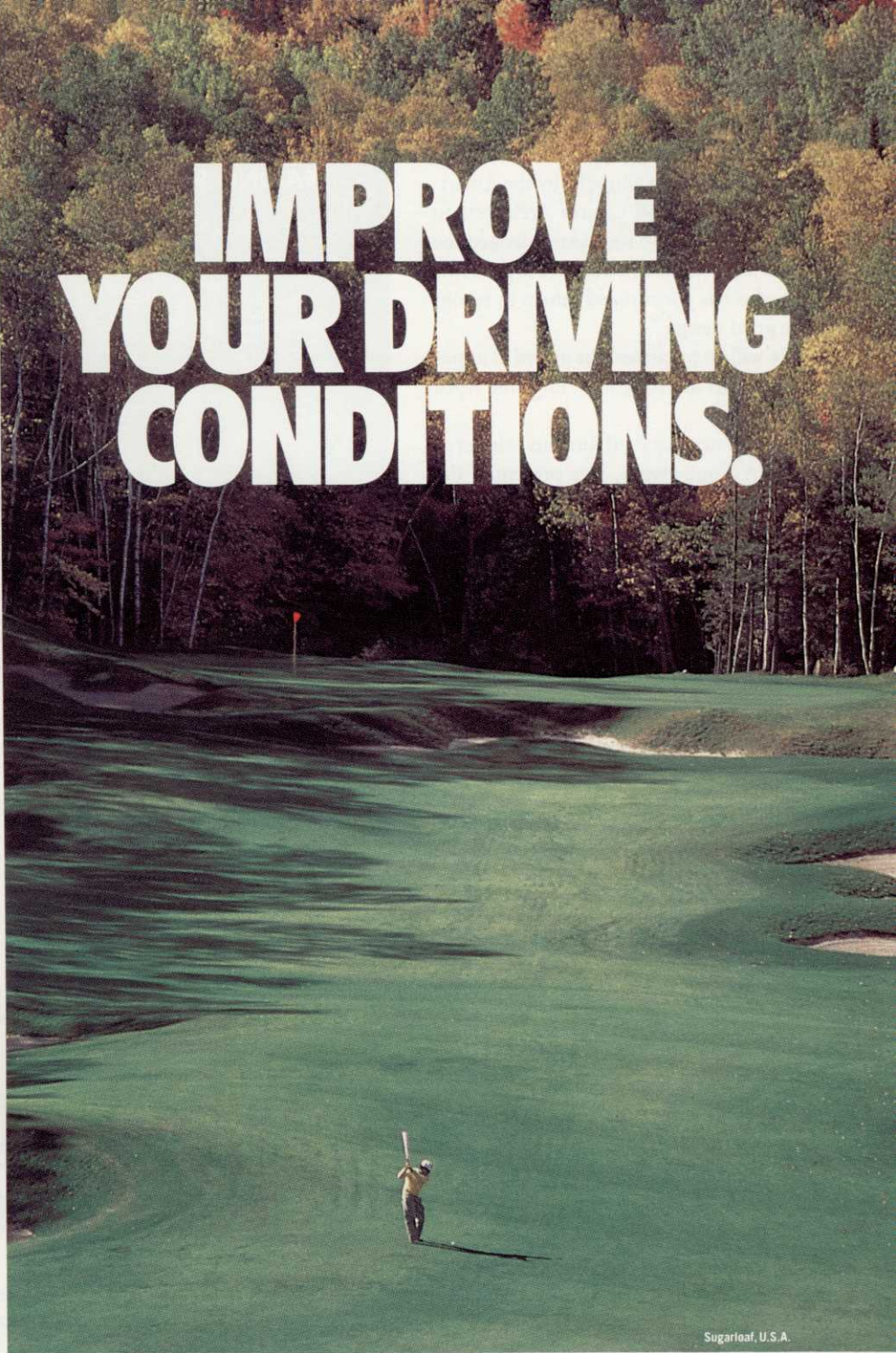
PREVIOUS WINNERS

USGA Green Section Award: John Monteith Jr., Lawrence S. Dickinson, O.J. Noer, Joseph Valentine, Glenn W. Burton, H. Burton Musser, Elmer J. Michael, James L. Haines, Fred Grau, Eberhard R. Steiniger, Tom Mascaro, Herb and Joe Graffis, Marvin H. Ferguson, Howard Sprague, Fanny-Fern Davis, James R. Watson, Edward Casey, Jesse DeFrance, Arthur A. Snyder, C. Reed Funk, Joseph M. Duich, Charles G. Wilson, Alexander Radko, William Daniel, Dr. Victor B. Youngner, James B. Moncrief, Sherwood Moore, Roy Goss, James B. Beard, Chester Mendenhall, Joseph Troll.

Donald Ross Award: Robert Trent Jones, Herbert Warren Wind, Herb and Joe Graffis, Joe Dey, Gerald Micklem, James Rhodes, Geoffrey Cornish, Al Radko, Dinah Shore, Peter Dobreiner, Dean Beman, Charlie Price, Frank Hannigan, Dick Taylor, John Zoller.

Award of Merit: Calvin Peete, Kathy Whitworth, Jack Kidwell, Bob Hope, Chi Chi Rodriguez, National Golf Foundation, Nancy Lopez, CBS Sports.

IMPROVE YOUR DRIVING CONDITIONS.



Sugarloaf, U.S.A.

ORTHENE® Turf, Tree & Ornamental Spray keeps pests out of your club.

Stop pests from playing a round on your course with ORTHENE Turf, Tree & Ornamental Spray. One treatment provides a broad spectrum of protection for turf as well as a wide variety of trees and ornamentals.

ORTHENE kills quickly on contact, then by systemic action. So you'll keep hard-to-kill pests like mole crickets, armyworms and leafhoppers under

control. ORTHENE supplies long-lasting residual action against other insects including tent caterpillars, aphids and thrips.

ORTHENE Turf, Tree & Ornamental Spray. It's more than enough to drive unwanted pests right off your course.

ORTHENE® Turf, Tree & Ornamental Spray

Avoid accidents. For safety, read the entire label including precautions. Use all chemicals only as directed. Copyright © 1990 Valent U.S.A. Corporation. All rights reserved. ORTHENE is a registered trademark of Chevron Chemical Co.



since 1983 is the 1991 recipient of the Donald Ross Award, given annually by the American Society of Golf Course Architects to "an individual who has acknowledged the importance of golf architecture to the game and who has encouraged others to recognize great design."

He will be presented the award at a special banquet in Broughton, England, April 23.

• Golf instructor **Paul Runyan**, winner of 28 PGA Tour events, was presented the Award of Merit by the National Golf Course Owners Association during its annual meeting at the Registry Resort in Naples Jan. 7. The award recognizes "achievements which reflect the proud traditions, elevate public awareness, and contribute to the advancement of golf as a lifelong recreational and competitive activity."

Florida still leads nation in course development

Florida opened more new golf courses in

LEADING STATES IN GOLF COURSE DEVELOPMENT 1990

Openings	Under Const.	Planing	Total
1. Florida 41	1. California ... 43	1. California 116	1. Florida 1,011
2. South Carolina ... 21	2. Michigan 42	2. Florida 93	2. California ... 853
3. California 17	3. Florida 39	3. Michigan 35	3. New York ... 781
4. Michigan 15	4. Georgia 28	4. Pennsylvania ... 38	4. Texas 756
4. North Carolina ... 15	4. Ohio 28	4. Virginia 30	5. Michigan 749

Source: National Golf Foundation

1990 than the next two states combined, according to the National Golf Foundation. With 41 openings last year, compared to South Carolina's 21 and California's 17, Florida now has 1,011 golf courses. California is second with 853.

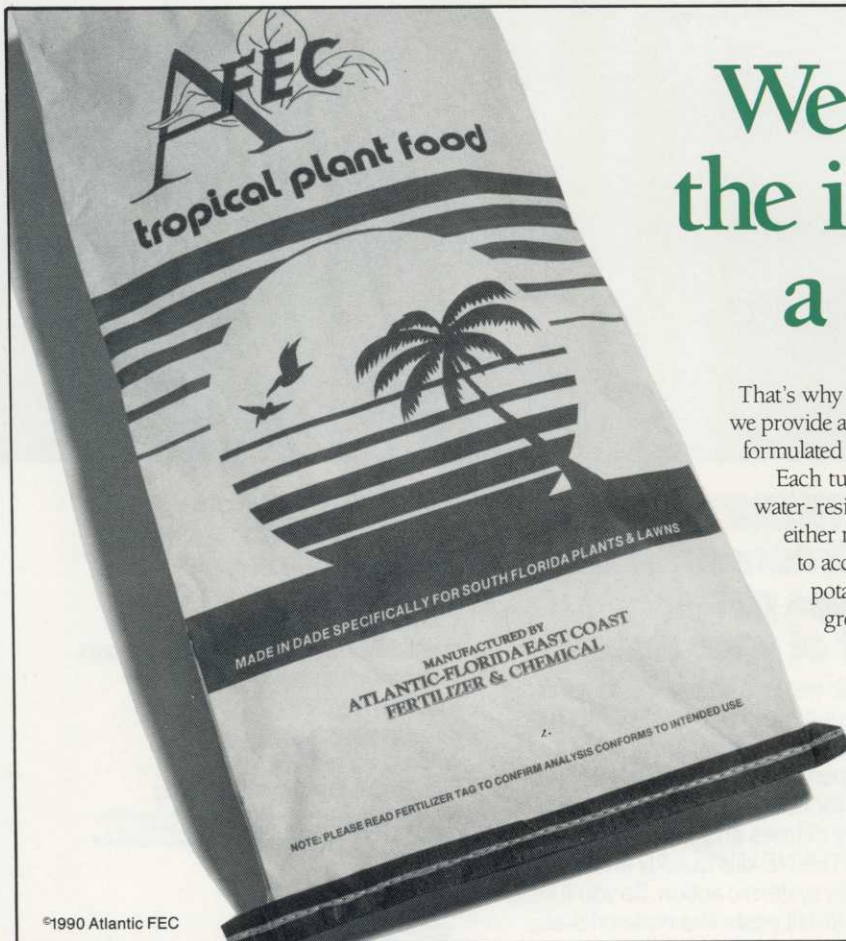
Another 39 courses were under construction in Florida as of Jan. 1, the NGF reports, with 93 others in the planning stages.

California (43) and Michigan (42) were

slightly ahead of Florida in the number of courses under construction while California also led the Sunshine State in the number of courses in planning with 116.

Nationally, 289 courses opened for play in 1990, one short of the 290 that opened in 1989. In 1988, the total was 211. Prior to that, the nation had been averaging fewer than 150 course openings per year.

Despite the economic slowdown at the end of the year, a total of 560 courses were



We understand the importance of a good mix.

That's why it's important that you get to know Atlantic FEC. Because we provide a variety of specialty mixes and related products specifically formulated for the South Florida turfgrass industry.

Each turfgrass mix is delivered by Spyder equipped trucks in water-resistant paper or plastic bags. Bulk material is available in either normal size Killebrews or "small door" (24") Killebrews to accommodate your turf spreader. Drop trailers, sulfur coated potash, and new Micro Prill Greenskote, a quality putting green blend, also available.

Call us toll free at 1-800-432-3413 or visit us at 18375 S.W. 260th Street in Homestead to find out how you can benefit from quality mix from the Atlantic FEC turfgrass professionals.

Atlantic FEC
Better Mixes Since 1923.

under construction across the nation, the NGF says, significantly more than the 463 under construction at the end of 1989. The number of courses in the planning stages also rose from 603 to 781.

Of the 289 course openings last year, 206 were new facilities and 83 were expansions (nine holes or more) of existing facilities.

A significant number of the courses now listed under construction are carryover projects from 1990 that had set opening dates in the third and fourth quarters but were unable to meet them. The NGF attributed the delays to weather, financing, and environmental and other permitting difficulties.

A recent membership survey by the American Society of Golf Course Architects revealed that virtually every firm is experiencing increased difficulty in getting permits because of environmental considerations... with some encountering delays of several years.

The NGF's analysis of its data revealed three major points:

- Real estate continues to drive golf course development in Florida to a significantly greater extent than the national average. Of Florida's 41 new courses, 31 (76 percent) were linked to real estate projects, compared to the national average of 47 percent.

- On the other hand, more than half of Florida's new courses (22) are open to the public in some manner, reflecting the ratio of public to private among the state's existing courses. Nationally, 70 percent of all new courses were accessible by the public.

- Among the 206 new courses opened for play in 1990, 60 were nine-hole courses, of which 38 had no plans for further expansion. In Florida, 10 of the 41 new courses were nine-holers. Overall, nine-hole courses today make up 40 percent of the nation's supply of 13,951 golf courses. In Florida, 102 of the state's 1,011 courses — just over 10 percent — are nine-holers.

Florida's Taylor retains USGA post; Michigan owner to head NCGOA

C. Grant Spaeth, an attorney from Palo Alto, Calif., was elected to a second one-year term as president of the USGA at the association's annual meeting in January.

Among the nine members of the executive committee re-elected was F. Morgan "Buzz" Taylor of Hobe Sound, longtime member of the Green Section Committee.

Jeff Hoag, owner of Scott Lake CC in Comstock Park, Mich., was elected president of the National Golf Course Owners Association at its annual meeting in Naples in January.

Vince Alfonso, The Rail GC, Springfield, Ill., was elected vice president and Gibson Lunt, Lakeshore CC, Rochester, NY, was elected to another term as secretary/treasurer.

The NCGOA serves about 100 public golf course owners in Florida.



Your Sand Man

*Choker Sand • Greens Mix •
Trap Sand • Bunker Sand •
Rock • Dolomite • Hi-Cal*

E. R. JAHNA INDUSTRIES, Inc.

Lake Wales, FL 33859-0840 • (813) 676-9431