Lawn care group defines issues

The Professional Lawn Care Association of America is undertaking several new projects under an "Issues Management" umbrella.

Creation of a new headquarter staff position: Director of State Government Affairs, will permit greater concentration on state and local regulatory and legislative issues.

Jim Wilkinson, director of regulatory and environmental affairs, will continue working with EPA, DOT, OSHA and other federal agencies. There will be special Issues Management bulletins, and a public relations network comprising 60 membrs in 27 states will be in monthly contact with 1,600 newspapers, radio and telvision stations.

A new Council for Lawn Care Information service will recommend standards and policies for professional lawn care.

Training programs to familiarize PLCAA members with the legislative process will be offered.

Bengeyfield 'Turf Master'

USGA Green Section National Director William Bengeyfield has won double honors.

While the Golf Course Builders of America was honoring his Green Section team for its "pioneering work in turfgrass research and management, Bengeyfield was receiving the fourth annual "Grounds Maintenance" Turf Master Award.

Grounds Maintenance magazine, which reports on landscape design, construction and maintenance, recognized Bengeyfield for

his interests and expertise in a variety of fields affecting agronomy and horticulture.

For instance, Bengeyfield in 1982 implemented a plan to collect and distribute, through the USGA Foundation, large amounts of money to support a comprehensive research program to improve turfgrass.

The money also was to be used to encourage young turf scientists to become leaders in research.

Over the first six years, the research program has received commitments of \$2.2 million. Current projections over 10 years call for commitments of about \$3.5 million. The money has funded more than 30 projects the last five years.

Bengeyfield, who joined the USGA in 1951 as staff agronomist and director of the Western Green Section region, has been national Green Section director since 1983. He also is editor of the "Green Section Record" and chairman of the Turfgrass Research Committee.

Monks square off against new course

The site of the little War of Snickers Gap has become a battlefield again — 125 years after the Civil War confrontation in Berryville, Va.

Golflinks Inc. President Mark Heacock and a group of investors want to build a championship golf course on land they bought for \$650,000 along the Shenandoah River. Across the river the 25 monks of Holy Cross Abbey are trying to persuade the Clarke County Planning Commission to deny zoning approval for the golf course.

The monks feel the course will attract hundreds of people and the mountains that rise up behind the site would amplify the noise.

Brother Benedict Simmons, the monks' spokesman, also refers to "talk about boating and swimming."

The Wall Street Journal quoted Heacock as saying, "All we want to do is build a high-quality golf course that preserves as open space two miles of riverfront. We appreciate and respect the lifestyle the monks have chosen. We want them to respect what we are trying to do."

Heacock has made concessions of no boating, picnics or outdoor parties.

The monks also fear sewagetreatment problems and claim that because 80 percent of the land is in a flood plain, the herbicides and pesticides that would be used would leach into the river.

Saying the monks and their supporters are caught up in "chemophobia," Heacock says, "This golf course will be run properly."

Both sides were awaiting a Planning Commission vote defining "golf course" — the developers wanting an expansive definition and the monks a restrictive one.

Noland Car sold

Outboard Marine Corp. of Illinois said it has bought certain assets of Noland Car Co., a private company based in Edgewater, Fla.

Terms weren't disclosed.

Noland manufactures gas and electric powered special purpose vehicles for golf courses and other facilities.

