

Kwik-Trench signs pact

Kwik-Trench Ditch Digger of Lehigh Acres, Fla., will distribute 100 trench diggers in Japan.

Kwik-Trench President Terry Riley said the agreement with Itoman and Co. of Tokyo could be renewed every year with a minimum of 100 orders.

Itoman is a Japanese conglomerate with one of its main businesses in exporting and importing. The company has offices in about 50 countries.

Vermont

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decision before Election Day, it would have cost Kunin votes among the many favoring the golf course.

"Coincidence" was the governor's office's explanation that the decision was announced the day after the election.

"The board believes the golf course will have an adverse effect during its construction phase, possibly also during its operation," the panel's opinion said. "The pastoral, quiet valley will

"I am sure that proper pesticide use on golf courses will have no detrimental effect on the quality of groundwater."

— Prof. Karl Deubert

experience a huge upheaval. The very existence of the golf course will change the whole context of the peaceful rural-residential

neighborhood."

The board based that opinion on "the need for a two-year logging operation to clear land for the course and the huge increase in traffic the course would bring."

Truax contends logging time actually would be four months.

Town backs course

Town selectmen don't think that's bad. They've urged Truax not to give up the battle, stressing that the project's

strong economic base is the only hope of a community long-depressed economically.

Townpeople apparently feel the same way. A poll taken after the course was turned down indicated up to 80-percent project approval. Those undecided or not greatly interested were among the remaining 20 percent.

A citizens' group formed to urge that the ruling be rescinded has swelled in numbers.

This core hopes to counter another organization, the Vermont Public Interest Research Group, which praised the board "for recognizing that water supplies must be protected."

The board said Truax' application failed to include important information such as what chemicals would be used on the course, or a detailed study of the flow of the groundwater.

"The knowledge of the effects of chemicals is constantly evolving and changing, and pesticides once deemed safe have turned out to be highly toxic," the board said.

Truax says the board wanted an absolute guarantee of no risk from chemicals. "No one can provide that," Truax asserts. "With our team of experts, we can assure minimal risk."

"Ironically, our approach to environmental issues has become a model for others planning courses outside Vermont," Truax said.

Palmer cautious

Truax' troubles haven't gone unnoticed by other developers. Pat McGinnity of the Ringer Corp. in Minneapolis, Minn., is working with the Arnold Palmer Management Group planning an 18-hole private course in Vermont's Windham County. Located between the towns of Stratton and Jamaica, it's now to be called Tamarack rather than Salmon Hole.

"We're preparing a comprehensive pesticide program featuring turf management and embracing maximum precaution and land use compatibility," said McGinnity. "Our presentation to the Environmental Board will be cautious and complete."

Vermont's golf course tug-of-war has been felt in other parts of the United States. According to Truax, several unsubstantiated statements have surfaced in the national media regarding the Sherman Hollow decision and some have rejoiced in rejection. Opponents of golf courses, on grounds of pesticide fear, are seizing the moment, Truax claims.

But leading authorities in the scientific field say there should be no worry about the pesticides.

Dr. Stuart Cohen, chemist and pesticide expert formerly with the Environmental Protection Agency, testified before the District 4 Environmental Commission on behalf of Sherman Hollow. His findings were adopted and approved by the Massachusetts

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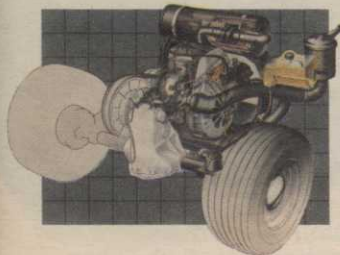


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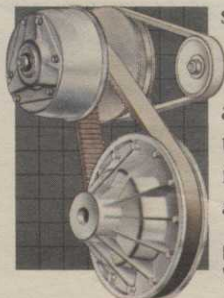
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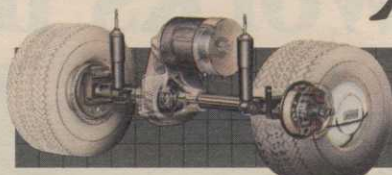


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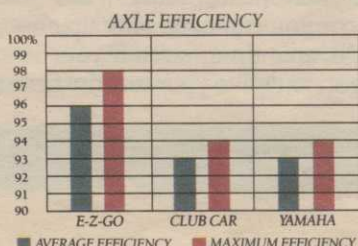
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