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GOLF COURSE NEWS

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Jones challenges architects

Robert Trent Jones Jr. took over the gavel as president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects in April and promptly gave a rallying call for the building of 5,000 new golf courses in the United States in the next 10 years.

Jones, of Palo Alto, Calif., who took over the reins from Pete Dye, told ASGCA members at their annual meeting in Pinehurst, N.C.: "The National Golf Foundation says we must add at least one golf course every day for the next 10 years to meet the exploding demand for golf throughout the country."

"We should probably round that figure off to 5,000 before the year 2000 and consider it one of the greatest challenges that this organization has ever faced."

Jones said it is also "a tremendous challenge to the creative energy and talent of each one of us individually. The game has never been more popular than it is today, and it is our responsibility to meet that

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1988 Golf Facilities in the U.S.

	1987	1988	Change Number	Pct.
Total Facilities	12,407	12,582	+175	+1.4
New Facilities	110	161	+51	+46
Total Courses	13,436*	13,626	+190	+1.4
New Courses	145*	211	+66	+46
Courses under Construction	223*	334	+111	+50
Courses in Planning	290*	382	+92	+32

* — Estimated.

Courtesy of National Golf Foundation

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bubbles over in courses

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innovations spruce up courses

Golf Participation in the U.S.			
	1987	1988	Change
All Golfers (played at least 1 around)	21.7M	23.4M	+7.8
Frequent Golfers (played 25 rounds)	4.86M	5.62M	+15.6
New Golfers	2.10M	2.21M	+5.2
Rounds Played			
Total	434M	487M	+12.2
Average	19.4	20.8	+7.2

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golf continues to rise

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Construction up 45 %

The growing wave of golf course construction in the United States rose 45 percent in 1988, according to the latest research by the National Golf Foundation.

With Florida leading the way for the fourth straight year, 211 new golf courses opened for play in 1988, compared to 145 in 1987.

Another 716 were either under construction or being planned, compared to 513 in 1987, the study found.

Florida accounted for 35 new courses, while Texas followed with 20, Georgia with

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Oregon's seed industry in trouble

BY MARK LESLIE

Oregon's State Legislature is considering a field-burning ban that would endanger the country's major providers of cool-season golf course grasses.

Oregon's 70 seed companies provide all U.S.-produced ryegrass, bentgrass,

Chewings and creeping red fescues, half the U.S.-produced tall fescue and about one-fourth its bluegrass.

But in the process, between mid-July and the end of September each year, the 800 farmers who grow seed burn their fields to purge them of the weeds and disease that

endangers the grass seeds. And last year when one farmer was burning a field, the wind changed direction, blew the smoke onto a major highway, and a seven-death, 37-care pileup resulted.

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Courtesy of Applewood Seed Co.
Superintendent Dick Schmidt has beautified his Port Ludlow (Wash.) Golf Course. See pages 18 and 19 for the lowdown on innovations in wildflower use.

ClubCorp. contracted for Moscow site

BY MARK LESLIE

A U.S.-Russia joint venture company has contracted Club Corp. International to build and then manage an 18-hole golf course, country club and conference center outside Moscow.

JV Dialogue, a company formed in November 1987 by Chicago Research and Trading owner Joe Ritchie and six Russian firms, plans the complex as part of a technical village it is building on the collective farm Leninski Lutch (Lenin's Light) outside Moscow.

Ritchie formed Management Partnerships Inc. to formally separate CRT from the Russian project. But CRT Executive Vice President Gus Pellizi is working on the plan and is upbeat about its prospects.

"The concept of the Leninski Lutch project is to develop a village which would enable people to live and work in a pleasant place with a pleasant environment," Pellizi said. "We thought what we would like to do was

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Courses

From page 1

16, North Carolina with 14 and California and South Carolina with 12 each.

Florida also had 45 courses under construction at the end of the year, the NGF found, while 22 were being built in California, 19 in both Texas and North Carolina, and 16 in Illinois.

The NGF and others are calling for even more course construction, and NGF Executive Vice President Dr. Joseph Beditz believes there are some encouraging signs in

the latest research.

"That we had a 45-percent jump in new course openings in 1988 and that 60 percent of these are public are two very positive signs," he said. "Equally encouraging is the 40-percent increase between 1987 and 1988 in the number of courses under construction ... although only 54 percent of these are public."

Beditz said building 400 or more golf courses per year is possible.

"During the 1920s there were 4,500 golf courses built over a 10- to 12-year period,"

he said. "And this happened again in the 1960s ... the second boom period for golf course development in the U.S."

According to the NGF report, the total number of courses in the country at the end of the year stood at 13,626 and the number of golf facilities was 12,582.

A facility may contain more than one course.

Florida's golf boom took the state from second place, past California into first in the nation in golf facilities with 765.

California has 745, followed by New York

with 735 courses, Texas 692 and Michigan 654.

Florida also leads in the number of courses with 932. California has 836, New York 794, Texas 761 and Michigan 721.

Researchers say that because nearly 70 percent of the golf being played today is on public courses, upwards of 65 percent of the new courses must be public facilities.

The NGF report shows that 66 percent of the new courses and 61 percent of the facilities in the United States are open to the public.

Golf Courses By State

(As of December 31, 1988)

State	Daily Fee		Municipal		Private		Total	
	Total	Rank*	Total	Rank*	Total	Rank*	Total	Rank*
Alabama	47	33	36	25	127	14	210	25
Alaska	5	49	2	49	2	51	9	50
Arizona	118	16	31	27	76	29	225	22
Arkansas	44	35	15	40	89	26	148	32
California	351	6	166	1	319	3	836	2
Colorado	58	29	68	9	65	31	191	26
Connecticut	49	32	37	24	83	28	169	28
Delaware	4	50	2	49	18	43	24	49
DC	0	51	3	46	4	50	7	51
Florida	431	2	89	6	412	1	932	1
Georgia	84	23	38	21	175	10	297	15
Hawaii	40	36	7	44	19	42	66	44
Idaho	39	37	24	33	16	45	79	41
Illinois	258	8	132	3	207	6	597	8
Indiana	209	12	61	11	103	20	373	12
Iowa	128	15	54	12	178	9	360	13
Kansas	64	27	47	16	128	13	239	20
Kentucky	84	23	31	27	97	23	212	24
Louisiana	25	44	24	33	103	20	152	30
Maine	91	22	8	43	17	44	116	35
Maryland	27	42	26	30	90	25	143	34
Massachusetts	175	13	38	21	127	14	340	14
Michigan	489	1	86	7	146	11	721	5
Minnesota	216	10	77	8	94	24	387	11
Mississippi	34	38	13	42	98	22	145	33
Missouri	105	18	48	15	117	18	270	17
Montana	33	39	20	36	26	39	79	41
Nebraska	59	28	36	25	74	30	169	28
Nevada	24	45	16	38	5	49	45	48
New Hampshire	74	26	3	46	16	45	93	39
New Jersey	92	21	47	16	123	16	262	18
New Mexico	21	47	26	30	31	38	78	43
New York	409	4	116	4	269	4	794	3
North Carolina	226	9	29	29	207	6	462	9
North Dakota	28	41	45	18	33	37	106	37
Ohio	419	3	91	5	193	8	703	6
Oklahoma	56	30	53	13	64	32	173	27
Oregon	100	19	16	38	36	36	152	30
Pennsylvania	367	5	38	21	237	5	642	7
Rhode Island	24	45	3	46	21	41	48	46
South Carolina	153	14	6	45	121	17	280	16
South Dakota	33	39	26	30	45	34	104	38
Tennessee	84	23	40	20	109	19	233	21
Texas	211	11	150	2	400	2	761	4
Utah	26	43	42	19	21	40	89	40
Vermont	46	34	0	51	11	48	57	45
Virginia	94	20	22	35	140	12	256	19
Washington	111	17	51	14	59	33	221	23
West Virginia	50	31	18	37	41	35	109	36
Wisconsin	267	7	64	10	84	27	415	10
Wyoming	21	47	14	41	12	47	47	47
Total U.S.	6,203		2,135		5,288		13,626	

*National Ranking

Source: National Golf Foundation/Golf Facilities in the U.S. (1989 Edition)

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The National Golf Foundation routinely lists golf course development. Individuals, businesses and organizations that join the NGF receive the listings free.