

Developers strive to meet regulatory decision

There is little spring planting going on at the proposed Sherman Hollow golf course in Huntington, Vt., but there is plenty of digging.

The \$22-million project, featuring an 18-hole layout as its centerpiece, had been mired for more than four years in state and district environmental board sparring with Sherman Hollow, Inc. President Paul Truax and state associates.

Truax also is principal owner of the Sherman Hollow Ski Resort, which did not open last winter because of insufficient snow.

Backhoes, bulldozers and men

with shovels in recent weeks have been probing the planned site of the golf course under the watchful eye of geologists.

The extensive earth-moving is the first step in checking course water supply, its purity, availability and contaminant possibility.

It's part of a fairly lengthy list of measures outlined by the state Environmental Board as conditions to be met before course construction can proceed.

The extensive digging operation has been expensive, but Truax remains undeterred.

Sherman Hollow is 'working with the golf industry in the state to help assure that reasonable standards ... are developed so that future Vermont golf developers will not find themselves in a similar regulatory quagmire.'

— Paul Truax

He said, "Even though we feel the permit process is excessive,

we will proceed. We see no reason why this course can not be permitted and built."

He added, "Sherman Hollow is in the midst of field testing necessary to address the specific questions raised by the board in its February decision and stipulations.

"Preliminary results confirm that the conclusions reached by the experts who testified on behalf of the golf course were sound. This further substantiates Sherman Hollow's contention that we had met our burden of proof in earlier proceedings and that the board's

recent findings constitute an unnecessary and costly burden."

Truax said the results also again "raise the question as to why the board largely ignored Sherman Hollow's extensive expert testimony."

Truax concluded, "Sherman Hollow's representatives also are working with the golf industry in the state to help assure that reasonable standards of golf course review are developed so that future Vermont golf developers will not find themselves in a similar regulatory quagmire."

'Follow Through' campaign kept alive

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and the Professional Golfers' Association of America are following through on their promotional campaign of last year.

"Practice Your Follow Through" is the new theme to a campaign designed to remind golfers to repair ballmarks, rake bunkers and replace divots.

The 17x22 inch four-color poster features LPGA star Nancy Lopez, Senior PGA Tour star Chi Chi Rodriguez and PGA Tour Player of the Year Curtis Strange. More than 30,000 will be distributed to golf shops, merchandise centers and golf courses throughout the world.

It was noted that "the golf professional and the superintendent are essential players on a golf course team which makes the playing experience enjoyable for the 22 million amateurs who participate in the sport today.

"Last year's campaign created an awareness to golfers of all ages that they have a responsibility to help maintain the conditions of play on the course," according to the GCSAA.

Small, Huff both honored

Charles (Jack) Small and Dave Huff shared the Maine Golf Course Superintendents Association's 1989 Distinguished Service Award.

Presentations were made at the recent annual Maine Turfgrass Conference and Show in Portland.

Small has been for 30 years course superintendent at Abenaki Country Club, Biddeford Pool, where he resides. He's also chief of the town's volunteer fire department.

Huff, a resident of Bow, N. H., is a longtime senior technical representative of Scotts ProTurf, covering Northern New England and Canada.

He was cited for his continuous aid to Maine golf that's far transcended his 35 years in the business.

Roger Lowell, course super at Webhannet Golf Club, Kennebunk Beach, noted that Huff was for many years conference program chairman and in that capacity helped line up many prominent speakers.

Al Bryant hit over 4500 fairways with this iron last year

Rain used to be the problem. The reason Al Bryant, superintendent at Florida's Riviera Country Club, missed a lot of fairway mowing. No more.

"**Since the John Deere 305** replaced our ground-driven mowers a year ago, I've been able to work on days and in areas I couldn't before," says Bryant. "I mow our fairways five times a week with the 305—put over 1500 hours on it last year.

"**Our fairways have also improved** because of the 305. The quality of cut is so much better. Its constant reel speed and ability to better follow ground contours have made all our fairways more uniform."

Bryant also uses a John Deere 855 Tractor, 1650 Tractor, 151 Vacuum Sweeper and two 22-inch Walking Greens Mowers at his course.

"**Parts back-up** has been a big factor in our decision to continue buying John Deere equipment," says Bryant. "We get almost all our parts in one day—and that means a lot in this business."

Talk to your John Deere distributor today for more information on all we have to offer. Or write John Deere, Dept. 956, Moline, IL for free literature. We know, like Al Bryant, you're going to like what you see.



Other John Deere machines at work at Riviera CC include a 151 Vacuum Sweeper, 1650 Tractor, and two 22-inch Greens Mowers.



Nothing Runs Like a Deere®

