

## Orlando project denied

Orange County, Fla., officials denied the request for a project that would have included a nine-hole par 3 golf course, miniature golf and a driving range in Orlando.

Golf Unlimited Inc. had asked zoning approval for the project that would have been located at Lake Underhill Drive just west of Econlockhatchee Trail. The officials said the project was too commercial for the mainly residential area.

# GCA focuses conclave on environment

"Your Golf Environment," the theme of the Golf Course Association's annual conference this winter, "strikes at the heart of our members' and society's concerns for this industry," according to the co-chairman of the coordinating committee, Jeff Hoag.

Hoag, the owner of Scott Lake Country Club in Comstock Park, Mich., said the Jan. 9-14 conference in Palm Springs, Calif., will focus on the environment while realizing that operations and maintenance are essential to that environment.

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An estimated 250 course owners and wives are expected at the meeting which is "designed for owners, by owners, addressing the unique business problems of the privately owned public golf course," said Hoag, whose co-chairman is Jim Scott, owner of Gull Lake View Golf Club in Augusta, Mich.

"The conference committee looked carefully at past attendees' critique sheets and feel we've retained the most popular elements of the conference while plowing some new ground," said Hoag.

Talks will cover the concept, financing, design, development, opening and status of new courses. USGA Green Section Chairman

Bill Bengueyfield will also speak and other presentations will cover course maintenance, clubhouse design, and course financing.

A roundtable discussion will be devoted to policies and profitability, covering check-cashing to reservations, Hoag said.

The organization will elect new officers and conduct its annual business meeting.

More information is available from the GCA at 8030 Cedar Ave., Suite 228, Minneapolis, Minn. 55425; 612-854-8482.

## Landfill site for course

Coal Creek Development Corp. reports it has reached an agreement with Golf Northwest Inc. of Lynnwood, Wash., to develop an 18-hole championship golf course on Newcastle landfill in Bellevue when the 270-acre site closes in 1992.

Coal Creek is reportedly already negotiating with Palmer Design Co. to design the course on the landfill, which Coal Creek owns. Two-year-old Golf Northwest, owned in part by Seattle SuperSonic player Jack Sikma, recently developed Harbour Pointe golf course near Mukilteo, Wash.

"We've wanted to build a first-class golf course on this site for a long time," Razore said.

"With Golf Northwest's expertise, now we can. We believe it's important that the site's final use be one which responds to the community's desires and rewards local residents for more than 16 years of waiting for this landfill to close."

## MGM buying land, Tropicana

MGM Grand Inc. has agreed to buy the 700-room Marina Hotel and Casino, the Tropicana Country Club and Golf Course, and 115 acres on the Las Vegas Strip.

MGM Grand Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Fred Benninger said the property will be developed into a movie theme park and 5,000-room hotel and casino, which originally was to be built on the MGM Grand Desert Inn property.

## Two associations, one conference

The Green Team Conference and Show organizers and the Professional Lawn Care Association of America will join forces and coordinate a joint convention starting next year.

Officials said the two shows will merge in Nashville in 1990 and be called the Green Industry Expo.

The PLCAA, Associated Landscape Contractors of America and Professional Grounds Management Society will sponsor the event. The PLCAA will manage the show next show and in Tampa in 1990.

# How to survive in the desert on only 5 reels a day

The desert is a pretty forbidding place for golf. But thanks to irrigation and the work of knowledgeable superintendents like Robert Stuczynski the desert area around Palm Springs, California, has become one of the country's golf meccas.

Stuczynski supervises maintenance at the 36-hole Ironwood Country Club in Palm Desert, California. And, for the last seven months, he's been using a 5-reel John Deere 3325 Professional Turf Mower on all 36 of his fairways.

"Equipment has to be tough to survive out here," says Stuczynski. "The temperatures, the terrain, the rocks—they're all hard on it."

"Our 3325 works 10 hours a day, seven days a week mowing all our fairways. We've had it for about seven months now and it's held up very well. The quality of cut has been excellent. In fact, it's doing such a good job we'd like to get another one."

"I went out and talked to other people who already owned John Deere equipment before I bought my 3325. People who make their living with equipment just like I do. I heard a lot of good things about equipment quality, durability and parts support. And, after the test we've given it here, the 3325 has certainly lived up to that reputation."

Talk to your John Deere distributor today for information on all we have to offer. Or write John Deere, Dept. 956, Moline, IL 61265 for free literature. We know, like Robert Stuczynski, you're going to like what you see.

*This John Deere 3325 Turf Mower mows all 36 fairways every day at Ironwood Country Club in Palm Desert, California.*



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