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GOLF COURSE NEWS

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THE NEWSPAPER OF THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

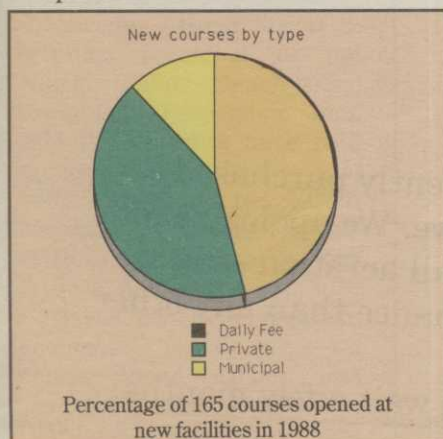
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Ransomes expands umbrella

Cushman purchase creates megaforce in industry

BY MARK LESLIE

Ransomes PLC of the United Kingdom has continued its American buying spree that finds it boasting a product line covering the gamut of turfgrass care from mowing to renovation.

Ransomes' purchase of Cushman in Lincoln, Neb., from Outboard Marine Corp. for \$150 million in late September included Cushman subsidiaries Ryan in Lincoln and Brouwer Turf Equipment in Keswick, Ontario, Can-

ada.

"I'm excited about working with Stuart Rafos (Cushman president) and the rest of the management team at Cushman," said Ransomes America President Helmut Adam. "Its product line complements the Ransomes line of commercial turf equipment extremely well."

Indeed, both companies feel the partnership makes a perfect mix and will help Cushman greatly increase its annual domestic and international sales

in the near future.

"I expect our international business — outside North America — will double because of Ransomes' strong distribution network internationally," said Cushman Market Director Clarke H. Staples. "Certainly we will also increase sales in North America at the present rate, about 15 percent a year."

Staples said Cushman has doubled its sales over the last four years,

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Accolades open ASU course

The latest Pete Dye designed golf course, the Karsten Golf Course at Arizona State University, was dedicated Sept. 15 as the man for whom it was named celebrated his 78th birthday.

"If someone had told me 10 years ago or 20 years ago that something like this would happen, I never would have believed them. All I can say is that it's been a real pleasure," Karsten Solheim, president of Karsten Manufacturing Corp., maker of Ping golf clubs, said after a standing ovation by the several hundred people who

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Photo courtesy of Evans/Artigue

ASU's Karsten course challenges golfers with water on four holes.

Europeans warned about design

BY MARK LESLIE

American golf course architect J. Michael Poellot told an international audience at Golf Course Europe '89 that more championship courses need to be built the world over but those courses should be designed to accommodate every level of player.

Declaring that golf course architects "lost sight of the strategic element" of golf with the advent of televised tournaments in the 1950s, Poellot said it is "quite possible" to build a high-caliber course for everyone.

Poellot, president of his own design firm headquartered in Saratoga, Calif., and designer of more than 200 courses

Architects have 'lost sight of the strategic element.' — Poellot



J. Michael Poellot

around the world, said, "Given an adequate budget and the technical capability, any site can be turned into a world-class golf course."

He told the group at the first day of the three-day conference and exposition in Wiesbaden, West Germany: "We believe the golf course architect must set up an environment

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Professors report breakthrough

BY MARK LESLIE

Two Ohio State University professors are optimistic that research on three projects will result in safer and more effective ways to control insects in turf.

Entomologist Dr. Harry Niemczyk and agricultural engineer Dr. Erdal Ozkan have made modifications to:

- Rain Saver Jr., made by Clearwater Industries in Nez Perce, Idaho, so that the machine can inject liquid chemicals and biological agents into the ground rather than spread them on top.

- The machine so that it will insert granular fertilizer or insecticides into

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The 16th hole at Wolf Run Golf Club in Zionsville, Ind., is indicative of the beauty at the 6,735-yard layout designed by Steve Smyers.

New Courses

Wolf Run a splendid creation

The Wolf Run Golf Club, a 6,735 yard, par 71 course designed by Steve Smyers, has opened on 310 acres in Zionsville, Ind.

The private development includes 100 acres that will eventually be developed into house lots. The course is located north of Indianapolis. It was slope rated from the back tees at 143 and the course record so far is 66 by Indiana professional Bob Mann. The 13th is a 243-yard par 3 over a ravine with 15 bunkers surrounding an elevated green.

Smyers, who was formerly associated with Ron Garl of Florida, has been in the business for 10 years.

Hurdzan Design Group busy on 16 courses

The Hurdzan Design Group of Columbus, Ohio, is working on or planning no fewer than 16 new golf course projects in the United States and Canada. It is also studying numerous improvement and renovation projects at existing golf courses.

According to Tracy D. May, senior project manager, the Midwest and Ontario are boasting golf course-starved players in both private and public domain.

In Ontario, Hurdzan is working on the Devil's Links Golf Course in Caledon, an 18-hole private course; a new public 18-hole

course named Royal Woodbine Golf Club in Toronto, and the private, 18-hole Devil's Pulpit Country Club in Caledon.

In Ohio, work is under way or scheduled to begin at the private, 18-hole Royal American Links in Columbus; the public, 18-hole Royal Oaks Golf Course in Delaware; the public, 18-hole Eagle's Nest Golf Course in Zanesville, and the public, 18-hole Indian Springs Golf Club in Mechanicsburg.

Hurdzan is designing an 18-hole private course in Rochester, N.Y., named Cobblestone Creek Country Club, as well as an 18-hole municipal course in Cheektowagda, N.Y.

The firm is designing an 18-hole public course in Ocean City, Md., called Eagle's Landing Golf Course and 27 holes of public golf called Little Bennett Golf Course in Frederick, Md.

Construction will begin next spring on an 18-hole public course in Columbus, Ind., called Mill Race Park Golf Course; and construction is already under way at Hickory Heights Golf Course, an 18-hole public layout in Pittsburgh, and on a nine-hole addition at the Country Club of Scranton, Pa.

The 18-hole, semi-private Silver

Leaf Golf Course in Rome, Ga., is under construction, as is a nine-hole addition at Baker II, in Minneapolis.

Improvement studies and renovations by Hurdzan are under way at Honesdale (Pa.) Golf Course; Minikahda Country Club, Minneapolis; Fairfield Golf Course, Cincinnati, Ohio; The Lakes Golf Course, Richmond, Va.; Antioch Golf Course, Chicago; Copper Hill Country Club, Flemington, N.J.; Spring Valley Country Club, Sharon, Mass.; Sunset Country Club, St. Louis; and at The Shorehaven Golf Club in East Norwalk, Conn.

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ASU course

Continued from page 1
gathered for the ceremony.

"It is wonderful when you can get people working with you and making a success of something was a dream," said Solheim, whose donation for construction of the course was the largest single cash contribution ever to the university.

Dedication of the championship public course, located at the ASU campus in Tempe, culminated more than a decade of work by university officials, alumni and boosters and members of the community.

"This course is a long-awaited addition to ASU's family of athletic facilities," said ASU President Dr. Richard Peck.

"The course will not only benefit our students and athletes, but also bring together faculty, staff, alumni and members of the community in friendly competition and the shared enjoyment and appreciation for Pete Dye's wicked artistry," Peck added.

Among those at the ceremony were members of the Sun Angel Foundation which was instrumental in raising more than \$7 million to build the course and is still raising funds for the construction of the clubhouse.

Henry DeLozier, president of Resort Management of America, the course's

management company, who worked closely over the last 18 months with all the parties involved, said the course dedication was the most exciting part of the project for him.

"The fact that we are dedicating this golf course today is a testimonial to the determination of the people at ASU," he said. "A tremendous amount of work has gone into this project."

Although Pete Dye was not on hand, son Perry, who managed construction of the course, was.

"It is rewarding to see a course you are so closely involved with dedicated," Dye said.

"When you have the opportunity to build a great golf course that everyone can play, it is a benefit to the industry."

Besides its beauty and challenge, the facility is unique in other areas:

- Ponds, which come into play on five holes, are stocked with three species of near-extinct fish to study their habitat — a project monitored by ASU Professor Paul Marsh.

- ASU climatologist Dr. Robert Balling has set up a permanent weather station on the course to monitor the effects of a golf course on the environment.

- Seven types of grasses were planted

including Tifton 419 Hybrid Bermuda, Tifton 328 Hybrid Bermuda, common Bermuda in roughs, Penncross bentgrass on greens, Hachita lovegrass, Cochise Blue gramma and Mediterranean.

- Some 175 Chilean Mesquite and Blue Palo Verde trees were planted.

- Caddies and fore caddies will be available.

The par-72 course plays from 7,057 to 4,760 yards from four tees.

Let us know

Each month Golf Course News — in cooperation with the American Society of Golf Course Architects — will publish news stories on new courses being built.

We are asking people who are planning or have begun construction on new courses, or rebuilding or expansion of existing ones, to write to:

Golf Course News, P.O. Box 997, Yarmouth, Maine 04096.

Please include such information as type of course, number of holes, terrain and other interesting facts. Four-color photos are also welcome.