

SB
433
-64
v. 2
no. 20

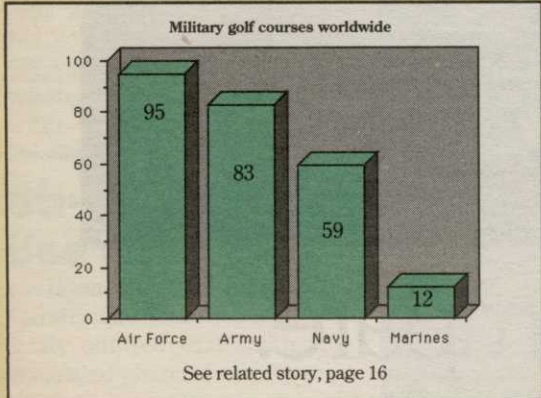
GOLF COURSE NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 6
JUNE 1990
A United publication

INSIDE

- 16 MILITARY** courses on the line
- 18 HOGAN'S HEROES** on new tour
- 20 FUNGICIDES** fight annual battles
- 29 EQUITY** structure improves cash flow



News

- Landmark Land Co. attempts deal 3
- Ohio Turfgrass Foundation surveys state 3
- Bob Hope sells to environmental group 4
- Sacramento still short despite new course 5
- Hayward (Calif.) GC may re-open 6
- Musser Awards three scholarships 7

Departments

Comment

- Beware of Big Scare from abroad 8

Letters

- Fred Klauk praised for TV interview 9

Super Focus

- Wright heaven-sent at Devil's Pulpit 10

New Courses

- Devil's Pulpit no frivolous venture 11-13

Government Update

- Florida developers holding breath 14-15

Association News

- CMAA head: Clubs no cloak and dagger 24-25

On the Move

- Indyk retires from Rutgers, joins Greenway 30-31

Equipment News

- Lofts Seed opens Oregon research arm 32

New Literature

- How to 'Stop Killing Your Lake' 33

New Products

- New equipment hits the marketplace 34-35

On the Green

- Practice makes perfect at home on the range 38

Rains deluge courses

BY PETER BLAIS

First Hurricane Hugo in South Carolina, then the San Francisco earthquake, then record-low temperatures in December throughout much of the United States, then, most recently, spring flooding in the south central Midwest.

It's been a tough past few months for the nation's golf courses.

Record April and May rainfalls swelled rivers and left entire courses under water in Arkansas and Texas. Some weren't expected to re-open until mid-June.

In Little Rock, Ark., Rebsamen Park and Burns Park municipal golf courses were completely flooded during the first week of May, according to Arkansas State Golf Association President Charles Wade. The back nine at Maumelle Golf and Country Club was

Continued on page 28



A tractor bulls through flood waters at Rebsamen Park Municipal Golf Course in Little Rock, Ark. Photo by Tanga Dreher

Jobs galore for grads

BY PETER BLAIS

At Michigan State University, Assistant Professor John "Trey" Rogers has a list of 77 assistant superintendent job openings for this year's 44 graduates of the school's two- and four-year turf management programs.

At Pennsylvania State University, 20 of this year's 36 turf management graduates had already accepted jobs as of mid-April, according to Professor Joseph Duich. Another six were nego-

tiating with employers and Duich had little doubt the rest would find employment.

At Texas A&M University, instructor Wallace Menn estimates the school has received three times as many job offers as it has graduating students (45) of the four-year agronomy with turf management option program.

At California State Polytechnic University at Pomona, Professor Kent Kurtz

Continued on page 27

Vegas debates effluent use

BY PETER BLAIS

The Colorado River Commission is considering stopping the use of effluent to water Southern Nevada golf courses, a move that could threaten development in one of the fastest-growing areas of the country.

The amount of drinking water southern Nevada is allocated from the Colorado River is determined, to an ex-

Continued on page 15



The floating 4th green at Coeur d'Alene is a monument to engineering and innovation. Courtesy of Scott Miller Design

Miller tests waters with floating green

BY BOB SPIWAK

When the golf course opens next summer at Idaho's Coeur d'Alene resort, it's going to make a big splash. Golfers, playing the 14th hole, will make a lot of smaller splashes. The course will feature the world's first

floating island green.

Coeur d'Alene is in the panhandle of northern Idaho, tucked between Washington and Oregon. Surrounded by mountains, and on the shore of Lake Coeur d'Alene, the town was once a timber community. It has evolved into

a recreational area and when land became available at the site of an old mill, local developer Duane Hagadone saw it as an ideal place for a golf course to accompany his hotel resort on the lake. Hagadone was certain of one thing:

Continued on page 26

Floating green

Continued from page 1

An island green would be its signature.

Hagadone selected Scott Miller Design of Scottsdale, Ariz., as the course architect. Miller spent nearly a decade with Jack Nicklaus' design company and Coeur d'Alene is his first project under his own name. The island 14th green may make the first the most unforgettable.

Two ship anchors in the lake, and two permanent anchors on the shore will allow movement of the entire green by means of a cable and winch system. It will be spotted from 75 to 175 yards from the shoreside tee.

No causeway connects it to the mainland. Instead, a launch will take golfers to the green.

The 14th green was engineered by Gloften Associates of Seattle, a naval architecture-engineering firm, according to John Marlow, administrative vice president of the Hagadone Corp.

It was built to conform to Miller's grading plan and green size, which will measure roughly 140 by 110 feet. Some 15,000 square feet in area, it will have a putting surface of 7,000 square feet tucked into berms, feature thousands of red geraniums, trees and sandtraps.

No lightweight, No. 14 will weigh in at 4.5 million pounds. It is comprised of hollow concrete cells, most of which are 10 by 30 feet, some 10 by 20 feet and near the perimeter, a few 10 by 10's.

"It's like putting Lego pieces together," said Marlow.

Prefabricated steel sections will be attached to the outer cells and faced with treated wood, which will create the final curves and match the wood facings at the mainland lakeside holes.

With a draft of five feet, the green will be stable on and in the water, regardless of wind and waves. There will be constant attention on the mooring system, which Marlow likened to pulling a large can of air under water, with the air being in the hollow concrete cells beneath the USGA-spec green.

While the 14th hole is the most unique, others on the course could qualify as "signature holes."

Thirteen is reminiscent of the finishing hole at Pebble Beach. The lake parallels the fairway and the first and second shots must each carry an inlet.

Entirely different in character is the sixth, a par 3 with tees stair-stepping down a flowered, woody hill and with a green framed by pine trees, lake and mountains.

The course will play 6,518 yards from the pro tees and 4,532 from the front tees. Between are two intermediate tees. Miller has seen to it that from each tee to green, the same club selection could be used, based on the golfer's ability. The front tees are not afterthought ladies' tees.

Miller is an admirer of yesteryear's architects — Donald Ross, Alister Mackenzie and A.W. Tillinghast.

He favors strategic, not punitive, layouts. His bunkers are designed so that there will be little chance the golfer will have a downhill lie in the sand.

Miller describes each green as having a series of "rooms," with individual characteristics that blend into the whole. Subtle contours of mounding and berming articulate Miller's belief that the golfer should be taken to the hole, not repelled en route.

It is a course, he says, that the golfer will have to think his way around.

The old lumber mill had for

'It's (building island green) like putting Lego pieces together.'

**— John Marlow, vp
Hagadone Corp.**

decades dumped mill waste—bark and chips — into the lake. Cleaning the mess became a major project when, after excavating down to 30 feet along the shore, there was no end in sight to the waste.

A system was designed wherein a plastic membrane was placed into the water above the waste. It serves

the dual purpose of trapping and rerouting the methane gas from the rotting wood below, and recirculating the percolated water from the fill dirt above to a seven-acre leach field inland.

Another environmental concern was a creek that borders the 11th fairway. A prime trout-spawning

stream, it is now protected by slopes and berms designed to preclude any runoff into it.

Wherever there is water, sumps and pipes were installed to carry the irrigation and rain water inland. Around the course are ground-water monitoring stations.

Greens are Penncross bentgrass and fairways are Penneagle bentgrass.

According to superintendent Steve Maas, the greens will be mowed with walk-behind mowers. His crew of 22 will work out of a new 9,600-square-foot maintenance building.

Continued on page 27

BENTGRASS

These Pros Know A Great Bentgrass When They See It.

It takes a real professional to recognize the benefits of a superior turfgrass. These superintendents are pros at growing grass. Their expertise is invaluable in evaluating new turfgrass cultivars. So when we developed Providence and SR 1020 we went straight to them. We realized that university data was useful but that evaluation by outstanding superintendents under varied golf course conditions was more important.

These superintendents have all used Providence and/or SR 1020. Their comments have been enthusiastic about the performance

of both cultivars: the color, texture, density, disease resistance, and heat and drought tolerance are outstanding.

Providence and SR 1020 also produce excellent putting quality. That's important to the superintendent and to the golfer. Especially, a professional golfer like Ben Crenshaw. Ben knows golf greens and appreciates a bent that can provide a fine textured, uniform surface with an absence of grain for true putting quality.

Both cultivars produce this outstanding turf and putting quality with reduced maintenance. That's

important to superintendents, golfers, architects, and greens committees.

So nationwide the pros agree, Providence and SR 1020 really are exciting new cultivars. They represent the new generation of creeping bentgrasses.



P.O. Box 1416 • Corvallis, OR 97339 • (800) 253-5766

For free information circle #120

Graduates

Continued from page 1
 reported eight to nine job offers for each of his 15 turf management graduates.

And so it goes.
 With the recent golf boom, it's a buyer's job market for graduates of the country's better-known turf management programs. Students are frequently leaving their schools with a handful of assistant superintendent and, in some cases, head superintendent job offers.

"From everything we've heard, the job market is very good for turf management students," said Colleen Pederson, director of education for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

"We could use more students," said Kurtz, a member of Cal Poly's Horticultural De-

partment which fell from 400 students in the mid- 1970s to 160 this year. "High schools don't give students very good direction. They don't know about openings in a field like golf course superintendent."

With so many jobs to choose from, what sways a recent graduate to choose one course over another?

Money? Most assistants start in the \$18,000 to \$28,000 range agree educators. Duich has seen offers of more than \$38,000. But money, at least for those first entering the field, "isn't as important as you might think," said Rogers.

Benefits? Many courses are offering improved insurance, retirement, vacation, clothing allowance and continuing education programs. Such perks are increasingly important, but rarely the deal maker when recruiting an assistant superintendent, said Menn.

Coeur d'Alene

Continued from page 26
 nance building. Outside, a state-of-the-art computer-controlled weather station will monitor and deliver irrigation throughout the course's 120 acres.

"Fence to fence," Miller beams, "it's going to be like a park."

Native vegetation has been retained wherever possible, supplemented by plantings of ground cover junipers on the hillsides and deciduous azaleas.

With lake views from most of the tees, even visual pollution has not been overlooked. Rest rooms are located in underground bunkers.

Some of the fairways are wide open. Some are level, some up and down hills. There are woodland holes and "maritime" holes.

This mix makes the course a delight, both to play and to walk upon and soak up the views.

Miller and Hagadone's Coeur d'Alene makes a statement that a course can be designed for golfers of every handicap. The floating green, unique in all the world, will be its exclamation point.

Bob Spiwak is a freelance writer based in Winthrop, Wash.

Location? While most hope to return to their native areas, recent grads realize "assistant superintendent" is generally a transient position. They are often willing to spend two or three years as an assistant in a strange area if it helps them eventually land a head job near their home.

The course? Experience at an Oakmont, Augusta, Pine Valley or the like looks impressive on a resume. But it's rarely the deciding factor.

So just what lures a recruit from campus to fairway?

"What really attracts a student," explained Rogers, "is the superintendent he'll be working for. His reputation. He (recent graduate) wants this first job to be a spring board to a head superintendent's job in two or three years."

"A good superintendent will say 'I want you here now. But I want you out of here in two years.' The best superintendents I work with are calling me every couple of years looking for a new assistant."

"The person they'll work for is very, very important," agreed Duich. "A good superintendent will give his assistant supervisory experience and get him involved in the decision-making process."

Many turf management students will already have some practical golf course experience, probably as a laborer. In fact, it's required for admission into the Penn State and Michigan State programs.

"As a rule, we require at least three years of experience," said Duich of Penn State's associates program. "Some students have five or 10 years. So we have a lot of older students. We rarely get an 18-year-old."

"We also have many returning students. We've had people with chemistry, math, psychology and many other degrees. At some time they worked on a golf course and decided to get back into it rather than spend their lives doing what they'd originally studied to do."

Two-year programs tend to be the most popular at schools offering two- and four-year options. At Michigan, the associates program has about 70 applicants for 40 slots, said Rogers. Getting back into the job market quickly is important for those who al-

Many courses are offering improved insurance, retirement, vacation, clothing allowance and continuing education programs. But such perks are rarely the deal maker when recruiting an assistant superintendent

ready have degrees and possibly families.

"The older, returning student is often married and has a lot of desire. And success, I've found, is about 90 percent desire," said Rogers.

"We haven't found much of a difference in the quality of two- and four-year students. Once you're out there, you're judged on how you do your job, not the degree you have."

Texas A&M has a bachelor's program, leaving two-year degrees to the state's technical, junior and community colleges, said Menn.

"There are a lot of good two-year programs in the state. And we get some of the graduates of the two-year programs who want the broader base of a four-year degree," he said.

Texas A & M graduates tend to remain in Texas, with most eventually ending up at large-city courses. "But a lot look for assistant jobs in north Texas to get some bentgrass experience," Menn said.

Duich said Penn State has the hardest time filling job requests from courses in the northern New Jersey and Long Island areas. The cost of living and the lifestyle are a tough sell since most Penn State turf management students come from smaller towns, he said.

Rogers said the hardest requests for Michigan State to fill come from large cities like Chicago and Kansas City.

"Most of our students aren't from big cities. And let's face it, \$20,000 will go a lot farther in Grand Rapids than it will in Chicago," he said.

More Varieties Available

- Other Seed Research cultivars bred for golf courses include:
- SR 4000 Perennial Ryegrass
 - SR 4100 Perennial Ryegrass
 - SR 4200 Perennial Ryegrass
 - Nova Perennial Ryegrass
 - SR 3000 Hard Fescue
 - SR 5000 Chewings Fescue
 - Titan Tall Fescue
 - Trident Tall Fescue
 - SR 8200 Tall Fescue

For Additional Information

Contact your nearest Bentgrass Marketing Group member for information and university test results:

- Agriturf**
59 Dwight St.
Hatfield, MA 01038
(413) 247-5687
- Arkansas Valley Seed Co.**
4625 Colorado Blvd.
Denver, CO 80216
(303) 320-7500
- Arthur Clesen, Inc.**
543 Diens Dr.
Wheeling, IL 60090
(312) 537-2177
- Crenshaw & Doguet Turfgrass**
7447 Bee Caves Rd.
Austin, TX 78746
(512) 263-2112
- Lea's Green Meadows, Inc.**
5050 Beach Place
Temple Hills, MD 20748
(301) 899-3535
- Old Fox, Inc.**
38 N. Court St.
Providence, RI 02903
(401) 438-5000
- Pacific Horticultural Supply**
12714B Valley Ave. East
Sumner, WA 98390
(206) 863-6327
- Plant Gro Corp.**
P.O. Box 703
San Jose, CA 95106
(408) 453-0322
- Professional Turf Specialties, Inc.**
133 Kenyon Rd.
Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 352-0591
- Smith Turf & Irrigation**
P.O. Box 669388
Charlotte, NC 28266-9388
(704) 393-8873
- Sweeney Seed Company**
488 Drew Court
King of Prussia, PA 19406
(800) 544-7311
- The Terre Co.**
P.O. Box 1000
Clifton, NJ 07014
(201) 473-3393
- FOREIGN GROUP MEMBERS:**
- Kenko Commerce & Co. Ltd.**
Mizushima Bldg., 4th Floor
2-11, Uchikanda 3-Chome
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 101 Japan
(03) 258-8061
- Rothwell Seeds Ltd.**
P.O. Box 511
Lindsay, Ontario, Canada K9V 4S5
(705) 324-9591
- Wright Stephenson Seeds**
P.O. Box 357
Seven Hills, N.S.W.
Australia 2147
(02) 674-6666

THIS IS THE RAKE EVERYONE KEEPS TALKING ABOUT

The Accuform Sand Trap Rake has revolutionized bunker maintenance. The unique design features a cylindrical, hollow head with 17 blunt teeth. The material is strong, black automotive plastic.

*Just a few of the courses currently using the Accuform Sand Trap Rake are:
The Olympic Club, Muirfield Village, Oak Hill, Arrowhead, Grand Cypress, Kemper Lakes, The National, Westchester, as well as 25 PGA Tour Stops.*



The fibreglass handle is available in bright orange or a subtle dark green and has a special Nexus coating. The entire rake weighs less than one pound, is extremely durable and actually performs better than conventional rakes.

For a free sample or to order simply call 1-800-668-7873.

ACCUFORM

76 Fordhouse Blvd., Toronto Canada M8Z 5X7
Telephone (416) 259-3259