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# GOLF COURSE NEWS

**SPECIAL LISTINGS**  
Architects and Builders  
Pages 16, 17 and 20

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

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## INSIDE

**16 FINANCES** and environment obstacles

**16 ARCHITECTS** top 200

**20 BUILDERS** of the United States

### Course openings in 1990 through June 30

	Daily Fee	Municipal	Private	Total
Opened as new facilities	54	16	23	93
Added to existing facilities	19	4	13	36
<b>Total courses</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>129</b>

Source: NGF

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## Florida spearheads change

### Summit brings all sides together

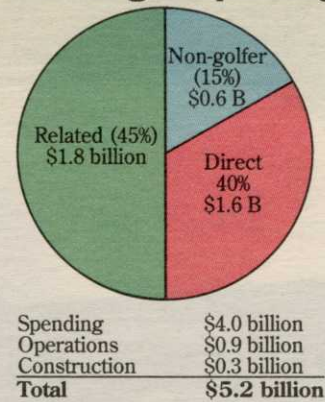
BY KIT BRADSHAW

Golf in Florida is a cornucopia, pouring \$5.2 billion annually not only into the golf industry, but into resorts, restaurants, agriculture, real estate, tourism, retail sales and services.

But the economic impact of golf as a business and the environmental benefit of golf courses must be recognized and understood by the public, legislators and governmental regulators.

Continued on page 10

### Florida golf spending



### Will other states follow the lead?

BY MARK LESLIE

In the wake of Florida's successful golf summit and with Golf Summit 90 set for Nov. 12-13, states where golf is big business may follow suit by adding lobbying arms and bringing together the industry and government agencies.

Summits like Florida's are "very important because golf is not well coordinated in most states," said Gerald Faubel of Saginaw (Mich.) Country Club.

Continued on page 22

## Pebble Beach course facelift going full tilt

BY FRANK POLLARD

Plagued by drought and turf problems, Pebble Beach Co. on California's Monterey Peninsula faces an aggressive renovation program at the hands of its new owners.

Prior to the billion-dollar sale of Pebble Beach Co. to Ben Hogan Properties, Inc., officials at the facility had started an extensive program to restore Pebble Beach Golf Links to its original design. At the

same time, though plagued by drought, Pebble Beach was undertaking a program of additional course changes to meet the stringent requirements of the U.S. Golf Association for the U.S. Open, scheduled there in June 1992.

The primary challenge was eradicating kikuyugrass and all noxious weeds from the tees, aprons, collars, fairways and rough.

Continued on page 15

## Calif. supers in suspense

BY PETER BLAIS

Californians will vote this month on two ballot questions dealing with pesticides that could greatly affect how golf course superintendents do their job.

Proposition 128, commonly called the Big Green initiative, would ban 70 to 80 percent of common pesticides used in agriculture, many of which

Continued on page 12

## Flood hits Augusta National and others

BY MARK LESLIE

Augusta National Golf Club lost its entire 11th green complex, Augusta Country Club faced washed-out riprap and one-quarter inch of silt on its 8th green, and other courses in Georgia and South Carolina dealt with their own problems after receiving as much as 15

inches of rain Oct. 10-12.

Tropical storms Klaus, Lily and Marco converged in a deluge creating the equivalent of 50-year floods in some areas.

Many courses simply watched the heavens open for two days and waited as the water soaked into the ground.

Others weren't so lucky.

Augusta National superintendent Marsh Benson had to contend with a complete washout of the 11th green and retaining walls, a washed-out 13th members' tee, a flooded 12th green and damaged 13th green as Rae's Creek

Continued on page 28



The 13th hole at Iowa Shoreline Golf Course shows how well "derelict land" can be turned into green space. Architect Patrick Wyss of Rapid City, S.D., designed the course in Carter Lake, Iowa. For more on new courses, see page 11.

# Flood

Continued from page 1

overflowed.

General Manager Jim Armstrong said the 135-by-40-foot pond that hugs the left side of the 11th green was "gone," along with its retaining walls.

While using a temporary green, Armstrong hired outside contractors and expected to have a new 11th green, retaining wall and creek banks constructed by late November or early December — "weather permitting."

Armstrong discounted rumors that the job would be done in 2-1/2 weeks, saying that while that would be possible, the other work had to be completed before greens reconstruction could begin.

Architect Ed Connor of Golforms in Ponce Inlet, Fla., who in 1987 created a computer model of the elevations and contours of all Augusta National's greens, said the club has the best topographical details of any course he had ever seen. Therefore, it would be easy to rebuild it to its original state as designed by Alister Mackenzie and Bobby Jones in 1933.

Neighboring Augusta Country Club was "fortunate," said superintendent Mike Crouch. "At least we've got grass."

With 12 inches of rain falling in 24 hours, Rae's Creek also overflowed onto Augusta CC's 8th green and left one-quarter inch or more of silt, washed out the riprap and damaged a bridge.

Crouch's crew aerified the damaged turf, then washed off the silt with high-pressure hose. He estimated the cost of the damage at less than \$10,000.

In South Carolina superintendents reported from 8-1/2 inches at Florence (S.C.) Country Club to 15-2/10 at Snee Farm Country Club in Mt. Pleasant.

Nelson Cato, superintendent at Woodside Plantation Club in Akin, said his course got 13 inches of rain in two days, nine inches of it falling in nine to 10 hours on Oct. 12. Nevertheless, he said some concrete cart paths and a pump house, where rain blew out a main disconnect, suffered the major damage.

The town of Mt. Pleasant helped Snee Farm by sending two tractor pumps to the spillway and pumping out 1,800 gallons per minute for two days, according to superintendent Billy Ford.

Superintendent Dennis Bowsher reported his Sunset Country Club in Sumter absorbed 12-13 inches of rain in two days. Though the driving range and tennis courts flooded, his sand-based course drained so well only a couple of sand traps were washed out.

Several superintendents reported they had just overseeded before the rains fell.

Superintendent Chuck Green at Florence lost some of his overseeding work, as did John Gay at Forest Lake Club in Columbia.

Bucky Hill, superintendent at Palmetta Golf Club in Akin, had closed his course for two weeks to overseed. The storms caused him to close it another four days, but he was thankful that his \$14,000 in seeds had mostly germinated.

"We had a pretty good river coming across 4, 5 and 6 fairways," Hill said. The 10-1/4 inches of rain completely destroyed the old dirt cart paths on the course, which was built in 1892 and remodeled by Mackenzie in 1940-41.

Hill had a contractor haul in clay and rock to build up the paths well enough to get play going again. But his crews were still scraping sand off the fairways in late October.

At Kiawah Island, Pete Dye's new course reportedly survived its first major test of water drainage in fine shape.

Assistant superintendent Milt Langley said Wild Dunes Golf Course on the Isle of Palms did not lose its 18th green, as had been rumored. But construction crews working on the new Dunes West course were slowed by mud since the cart paths and roads were not finished.

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