

S.B.
433
.G4
v.2
no.9

GOLF COURSE NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 9
SEPTEMBER 1990
A United publication

INSIDE

- 6 AMERICANS** share expertise in Japan
- 18 ASPIRING** architects learn ropes
- 20 HIGHLIGHT** on blowers, sweepers, vacs
- 22 A REVOLUTION** in United Kingdom

Types of courses by length

Length	Type			Total
	Daily fee	Municipal	Private	
Regulation	5,349	1,887	4,998	12,234
Executive	492	129	158	779
Par 3	455	150	120	725
Total	6,296	2,166	5,276	13,738

Source: NGF

News

- TPC-Conn. renovation in race against time 3
- Florida Golf Council created, summit set 4
- Rodriguez Foundation, GCN plan tourney 4
- Congressman wants more from land lease 5
- Bass Group expands golf division 7
- GCSAA board playing Canadians 27

Departments

- Comment**
- All are equal under God's law 8
- Letters**
- Leave masters' course designs alone 10
- Super Focus**
- For Jerry Owens, 12 courses are a charm 11
- New Courses**
- Pete Dye puts stamp on 3rd nine at Kohler ... 12-13
- Government Update**
- Minus \$311M, Honolulu opens muni 14-15
- Association News**
- Campbell: Supers' work most important 16-17
- Business News**
- Grace-Sierra opens South Carolina plant 28-29
- On the Move**
- Melex meets growth with changes 30-31
- New Literature**
- GCSAA unveils buying study 32
- New Products**
- New equipment hits the marketplace 33
- On the Green**
- Heads Up keeps flags up, erosion down 38

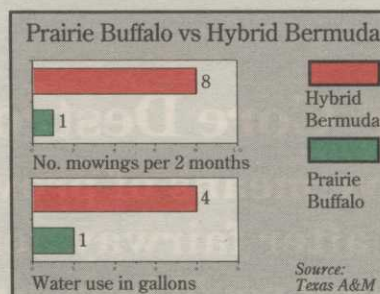
Beating the heat

Buffalo billed as wonder grass

BY PETER BLAIS

Barton Creek Country Club in Austin, Texas, is experimenting with two varieties of buffalograss that will eventually be available nationwide and could save the golf industry millions of dollars annually in water, fertilizer, pesticide and mowing expenses.

Prairie buffalograss developed at Texas A&M University was introduced



to the perimeter rough and along steep bunker faces of the new Ben Crenshaw-designed course beginning in late June. *Continued on page 24*

Isolite expected barrier-breaker

BY MARK LESLIE

Isolite is no panacea, Lou Haines is quick to say, but it could lower the body count in impending water wars.

Haines, the technical services director of New Golf Concepts, Inc., of Westminster, Colo., is optimistic that tremendous inroads will be made into America's golf courses by Isolite, which

Continued on page 26



Water comes into play on several holes, including this one, at Jack Nicklaus' latest design — the private Governors Club in Chapel Hill, N.C. Nicklaus and club pro Ronnie Parker played the inaugural round at Governors Club on Sept. 5. The par 72

layout plays from four tees — the shortest over 5,267 yards and the longest 7,085. See pages 12-13 for more information on new courses proposed and approved around the United States.

Photo by Chip Henderson

UK is definitely no U.S.

BY BRADLEY S. KLEIN

A revolution in golf course maintenance in the United Kingdom has begun at the same time its greenkeepers are being lured to Continental Europe.

The culprit causing an Americanization of greenkeeping is television, according to Brits in the industry. The pull to Europe, where 300 courses are under construction, is salaries that are double and triple the \$15,000 to \$22,000 earned in the United Kingdom.

British and International Golf

Greenkeepers Association Chairman Ivor Scoones acknowledged the "brain drain" is a living force between England and the continent.

Budget troubles at home tend to magnify the difference between tending a course in one place or the other.

BIGGA Executive Director Neil Thomas said greenkeepers in Great Britain, who historically have had low maintenance budgets, now "have to deal with public perceptions about how a golf course should look."

Many British golfers have turned their back on "the links model" and become fascinated by what might be called "the Augusta model," he said.

The role of televised tournament golf cannot be overestimated. Club members, having watched The Masters on the tube, ask their club secretary why their greens and fairways aren't picture perfect, lush and plush, he said.

Greenkeepers explain that even Augusta National is timed to peak at

Continued on page 22

Discrimination stops at supers' desk

BY MARK LESLIE

Discrimination doesn't exist on groundskeeping crews at country clubs around the nation — even those that exclude certain people as members, according to superintendents surveyed.

"Segregation and integration are just not an issue (on grounds crews)," said Gerald Faubel, president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of

America and superintendent at Saginaw (Mich.) Country Club. "I have never seen any discrimination whatsoever with regard to race or sex on a grounds crew."

Faubel's remarks followed the debacle at Shoal Creek Country Club in Birmingham, Ala., in which the club's discrimination against blacks threatened to prevent the PGA Champion-

ship from being played.

"If you found any segregation in grounds crews it would really surprise me," Faubel said.

James Singerling, executive vice president of the Club Managers Association of America and a former club manager, said clubs "never have a hiring policy."

Continued on page 19