

GOLF COURSE NEWS

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The firms that run the courses, pages 41-43
Management Companies

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2nd quarter 1991 course update

Type	Open			Under Construction		
	1991 YTD	1990 YTD	1990 Yr-end	1991 YTD	1990 YTD	1990 Yr-end
Daily Fee	48	—	166	340	—	301
Municipal	13	—	37	88	—	71
Private	27	—	86	189	—	184
N/A	—	—	—	3	—	4
Totals	88	82	289	620	511	560

Source: NGF

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High Court ruling said 'scary'

By Peter Blais

The recent Supreme Court ruling freeing local governments to impose pesticide regulations that conflict with federal law could severely restrict the use of golf course chemicals, according to a Golf Course Superintendents Association of America official.

"It scares the hell out of me. It's

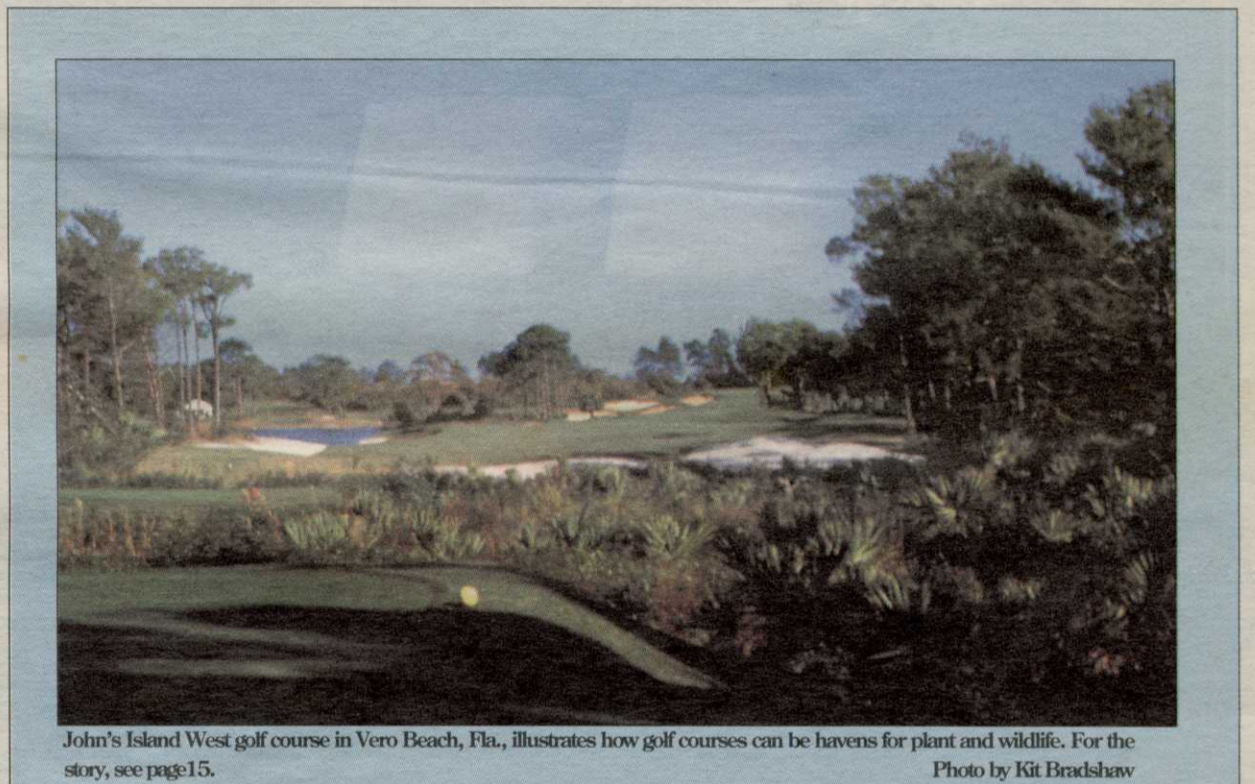
another step toward more regulations," said Charles Passios, government liaison to the GCSAA board of directors.

"It means superintendents are going to have to be more pro-active than ever, participating in the process and taking a lead role to make sure our concerns are heard when towns want to pass regulations."

In the case of the Town of Casey, Wis. v. Ralph Mortimer et al, the court ruled unanimously June 21 that the language of the Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act does not allow it to pre-empt locally passed regulations.

The decision overturned a Wisconsin Supreme Court ruling that FIFRA

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John's Island West golf course in Vero Beach, Fla., illustrates how golf courses can be havens for plant and wildlife. For the story, see page 15. Photo by Kit Bradshaw

Major changes expected in revisions of wetlands laws

By Mark Leslie

Wetlands preservation regulations that have handcuffed golf course developers and created long, expensive waits for approvals are being rewritten — and loosened extensively — on two fronts.

A revision of the much-maligned federal wetlands delineation manual — used by the Army Corps of Engineers, Environmental Protection

Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Soil Conservation Service since 1989 — is under review and is said to more narrowly define what constitutes a wetland.

Further up Pennsylvania Avenue, congressmen have answered the call of voters and drafted legislation to correct deficiencies they see in the wetlands protection system.

Some conservationists are

angry. Linda Winter, director of wetlands programs for the Izaak Walton League, said a scientifically sound definition is "being thrown out and ignored for political reasons."

One EPA ecologist resigned and another asked that his name be dropped from the credits of the revision.

But others are looking forward to changes.

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First facilities open for handicapped

By Mark Leslie

Two golf facilities built especially for the physically challenged will open within the next month, marking milestones for the country's millions of handicapped people.

In Akron, Ohio, Edwin Shaw Hospital is completing the first course in the country designed especially for handicapped golfers. Dedi

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End of drought won't solve Calif. woes

By Peter Blais

RIVERSIDE, Calif. — Water will continue to be in short supply for many years in California because of the six-year drought, increased demand from a growing population and environmen-

tal concerns, according to a Southern California water expert.

"We are going to see changes in our landscapes and maybe in our lifestyles if the shortages are severe enough and long enough,"

Coachella Valley Water District water management specialist Dave Harbison said during a recent water management seminar sponsored by the University of California, Riverside Cooperative

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High Court ruling gives community pesticide laws precedence

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took precedence over local laws, according to Tom Delaney, Professional Lawn Care Association of America director of government affairs.

The Wisconsin court had agreed with Christmas tree farmer Ralph Mortimer that the town of Casey could not pass laws stopping him from spraying pesticides on his farm, Delaney explained.

"We're very disappointed with the decision," said PLCAA President Neal DeAngelo, whose association had successfully fought pre-

'It scares the hell out of me. It's another step toward more regulations.'

— Charles Passios
GCSAA directors'
government liaison

vious municipal attempts to preempt FIFRA. "We realize this will affect everyone who uses pesticides."

Passios and DeAngelo said they are encouraging members of both associations to inform their leader-

ship whenever localities are considering passing pesticide ordinances.

"The earlier we hear, the earlier we can help members deal with it," DeAngelo said. "The tools we can provide are primarily information



members can use to nip bad laws in the bud."

Meanwhile, the PLCAA will be fighting for local and state control on two fronts, according to Delaney.

First, FIFRA is up for Congressional re-authorization within the next two years. The PLCAA will attempt to get federal pre-emption language included, Delaney said.

"It will be a fight by both sides. I'm afraid Congress will have to see some of the problems local control will cause before it does anything,"

he said.

Second, state laws can be rewritten so they take precedence over local ordinances, Delaney said. The PLCAA is encouraging members to lobby their state legislators and regulators.

Delaney encouraged superintendents to monitor proposed local pesticide ordinances dealing with golf courses and other pesticide users.

"Municipalities may deal with homeowners one week, golf courses the next and somebody else the next.

"The philosophy is to divide and conquer. But it pays to get involved in the others' fight as well as your own," Delaney said.

"The GCSAA has been noticeably absent from federal meetings dealing with pesticides.

"It really hasn't been very active in cooperating with the other industry user groups."

PLCAA hopes 'to meet the challenge' at conference

The Professional Lawn Care Association of America's 12th annual conference will be held in conjunction with Green Industry Expo/91 in the Tampa (Fla.) Convention Center, Nov. 18-21.

The theme, "Meet the Challenge," describes the conference goals: to help lawn care companies meet the challenge of self-improvement, progressing to suit changing times, becoming better business leaders, learning more about turf research and new products, and finding ways to work together with each other to assure a strong future for lawn care professionals.

EDUCATION GIVES AN EDGE

The lawn care business is constantly changing with new products and new techniques resulting from research every year.

"PLCAA members have every opportunity to get the competitive edge over their non-member competitors through education sessions covering topics of vital importance," according to Dale Lybarger, conference education chairman.

Some of the sessions scheduled by the Conference Committee, chaired by Daryle Johnson, are business basics, marketing, mixing pesticides and fertilizers.

Also, recycling systems, biostimulants, sprayer use and nozzle control, broadleaf weed control composting, nitrogen and pesticide movement, state pesticide issues and liability insurance.

