

from officials of state agencies, others

our staff charged with the responsibility of writing the various regulations that affect you. They don't know all the aspects of your business.

"I have learned a lot (here) that I didn't know before. But you people have a responsibility to meet with staff and explain it to them, just the way other industries do.

"It seems to me this can be done through the Florida Golf Council. You certainly have a qualified leader in Bobby Brantley. It sounds like you just have to get behind him

'Society creates the problem. Yet, we in the golf business are expected to carry the lion's share of the expense in recycling it.'

— Tom Benefield
president, Florida GCSA



with the resources needed to get the job done."

To make the Council more effective, the board of directors voted unanimously during the summit to establish regional chapters throughout the state.

Those interested in joining the Florida Golf Council, or helping establish regional chapters, should call 904-893-9755 or 407-688-0800. Nancy Oliver is director of communications of the Florida Golf Council.

Verona Hills expanding

VERONA, Mich. — The semi-private Verona Hills Golf Course, considered the premier layout in the Thumb, will expand but at a carefully controlled pace.

President Bob Buckley said Verona Hills, owned by the 250 members, won't become a giant resort stop. "Our club is based on 67 years of tradition and friendships drawn from six or seven communities," he said.

Scenic Golf and Country Club in Pigeon, Bird Creek Golf Course in Port Austin and Verona Hills are owned by groups of stockholders. All profit revenue is turned back into the course.

Architects course

Continued from page 1

development. But I'm confident the students left with a practical understanding of the business."

The three-credit course — Programming, Financing and Construction of Sports Facilities — drew a cross-section of master's degree students. The class included two engineers, two history majors, business, mathematics, English and accounting majors.

Pate said their common goal was to manage in sport. Two, in particular, aim to work in management in golf. Others are interested in operating sports facilities or in being athletic directors. George is helping a group of three who decided to tackle course design as their semester project.

"In past years we've had groups of three do course projects on clubhouses and amenities," Pate said. "This year the entire group was interested in golf. I've known Lester George for awhile and spoke with him about it. We decided to do something different and unique."

The "unique" approach led to a class that went from classroom instruction to in-the-field work.

The Royal Virginia Golf Club in Haden, Va., a co-design of George and Pulley, was in the grow-in stage.

The students received topographical maps of the site, routed and designed their own courses, and presented their layouts for class critique.

"A couple of holes I thought were better than Lester's," Pate joked.

Pate said starting the lecture series was "a critical decision. We like to give the students a variety. But I'm glad we went ahead with it... It will definitely enhance our program by adding another dimension to the curriculum."

A teacher by nature, George said he especially enjoyed talking about the career he loves.

He said it helped that "the students were extremely sharp. They knew more than I thought about facility planning. Their questions opened a lot of discussion about other amenities like the clubhouse, lodging and conference facilities."

George said having an actual golf course site available made the course solid.

Would he like to do it again?
"I'd love it," he said.

