

GOLF COURSE NEWS

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INSIDE

The votes are in...

Providence proved the overall winner in the most recent national bentgrass field tests 11

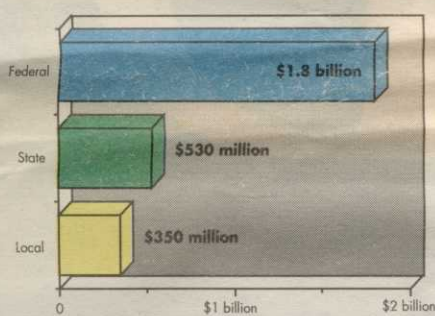
Council goes dormant

The North Carolina Golf Council, born with high expectations, has hit upon tough times. 5

Conference call

Two GCN-sponsored conferences — on marketing and public golf — are fast approaching 27,30

Taxes paid by Golf Courses



GOLF'S ECONOMIC IMPACT

A special report, commissioned by the NGF, details golf's impact on local, regional and national economies. See page 3.

COURSE MAINTENANCE

- Wetting agents OK'd for Hydroject 11
- Overseeding brings speedy payoff 11
- Super Focus on Joe Esposito 12

COURSE DEVELOPMENT

- Lessons in membership fraud 19
- Baird plans course on mainland China 21
- New course listings 26,34

COURSE MANAGEMENT

- Club Corp. takes its act to Canada 27
- Focus on workers' compensation costs 27
- AGC lands nation's oldest golf course 29

SUPPLIER BUSINESS

- Bioremediation technology in action 30
- One company girds for sluggish 1993 31
- What's new in the marketplace 33

Critics assail anti-growth advocate

Experts question Klein's methods, motives and results

By MARK LESLIE

Golf course developers and builders bristle when his name is mentioned. Architects flinch. Scientists snicker. Anti-growth advocates smile.

One thing about Richard Klein, president of Community & Environmental Defense Associates: When asked about him, people do not teeter on the fence.

"He is not fondly mentioned around here,"

said David Locke, vice president of Daft McCune Walker, Inc., a landscape architecture and land planning firm in Maryland.

Milt McCarthy of McCarthy and Associates in Upper Marlboro, Md., said: "In projects we've worked on Klein has professed himself as a geotechnical or ground water hydrology expert. He was involved

Continued on page 24



Richard Klein

Legislative progress steadily on the RISE

By HAL PHILLIPS

When members of the chemical industry meet this month at the RISE Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., RISE Executive Director Allen James will deliver his share of good news and bad.

The key issue for RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment) has been federal and state preemption of pesticide laws. Currently, local communities in half the 50 states can ban any chemical they choose, even if state and federal environmental agencies have signed off.

However, when RISE members meet Sept. 12-14, James will report that 25 states have adopted varying degrees of local preemption statutes, establishing state and federal regulations as the legitimate authorities on issues of chemical safety.

Meanwhile, the effort to amend the Federal Insecti-

Continued on page 31



DEVELOPMENTAL SUCCESS STORIES

Willard Byrd's Plantation Course at the Landings community in Georgia is a good example of real-estate-based golf projects that work. For more examples, see page 18.

Drought continues to plague Northwest

By PETER BLAIS

Drought in parts of the Northwest, Rocky Mountains and Midwest has increased maintenance costs and, in the most severe cases, decreased play at golf courses.

Reno, Nev., is one of the hardest hit areas. City-owned Northgate Golf Club depends on runoff passing through a nearby ditch for its irrigation water. But with little rain and virtually no snowpack last winter, the ditch has run dry much of the summer of '92. The club went 27 days without watering its fairways at one point, according to head pro Don Boyle.

"Rounds and revenues are down 50 percent," he said. "We've reduced our fees about 25 percent. But if you don't have the product people are accustomed to,

Continued on page 10

Industry analysts mull Landmark decision

By HAL PHILLIPS

While federal authorities ponder the fate of once-mighty Landmark Golf Course Design and Construction, industry analysts go about their business — namely, trying to figure out how the finance world will view golf course projects in light of the latest Landmark decision.

"As an appraiser, I don't see how this would negatively impact value in the long term, but in the short term it definitely hurts," said Larry Hirsh, president of Golf Property Analysts, Inc.

and president of the Society of Golf Appraisers.

"I think the situation has scared away financiers, which we didn't need to begin with," Hirsh continued. "And by eliminating the availability of financing, you've reduced the size of the market, which in turn further reduces the supply of financing."

"Anytime you get negative publicity, it will scare lenders away," added Don Rhodes of Textron Financial. "We're

Continued on page 29

