

# GOLF COURSE NEWS

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#### GREEN MOUNTAIN GOLF

Rees Jones' latest renovation project — The Gleneagles Golf Course, a venerable Walter Travis design in Manchester, Vt. — has opened for play. Q&A with Jones, page 25.

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Michael Hughes of the NGCOA

## New tax laws, economy drive trend toward for-profit clubs

By MARK LESLIE

Changing tax laws and difficult economic conditions are causing a massive move of not-for-profit golf courses into the for-profit realm.

That change of status is "a major trend right now," said Kathi Driggs, vice president of Club Managers Association of America (CMAA) in Alexandria, Va. "A lot of our clubs — clubs that have been traditionally not-for-profit — are realizing now it is more feasible for them to be for-profit."

"There's no question it's going on," said Michael Hughes, executive director of the National Golf Course Owners Association in Charleston, S.C. "With the economic difficulties we've experienced in the last two or three years, the private clubs have lost members. Ones that had long waiting lists, have no waiting lists."

Driggs said a change to status might cost

## New life for Arizona projects

By MARK LESLIE

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — The Arizona golf course construction industry has a pulse again.

One of the country's largest water development systems is on-line and golf course projects — on hold for years because of lack of water — are lining up to buy into the new supply. As many as 14 new courses could be built now that non-potable water has started flowing from the Central Arizona Project (CAP) canal north along Pima Road to the northern reaches of Scottsdale. That is prime golf

course territory featuring the likes of Desert Mountain Properties, The Boulders, Troon North, Desert Highlands and the Tournament Players Club of Scottsdale.

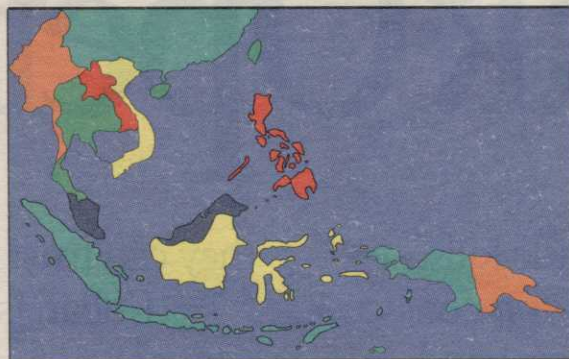
The \$14 million Reclaimed Water Distribution System (RWDS) is the newest phase of the master plan, begun in the 1950s, to irrigate the West. Next up will be the 1995 start-up of an effluent plant that will treat water from the major development area in north Scottsdale. That water will be reinserted into the pipeline,

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#### IS IT REAL?

Or is it Intergraph? It's the latter, a computer design system used by Nicklaus Design architect Carl Mistretta to render this VDT image of no. 17 at the TPC Kauapulehu in Hawaii. See page 25.



## One-stop shop comes to Asia

By PHILIPPS

SINGAPORE — After months of posturing on both sides, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) and Connex Private Ltd. appear to have joined forces, thereby creating a single mega-show serving the entire Asia-Pacific region. As part of a written statement, GCSAA indicated the event will be "two events under one roof," not a single show. Each show will retain its own staffs, resources and, presumably, autonomy. These simultaneous events will be held March 24-27, at the International Merchandise Mart in Singapore.

However, further details on the two-show, one-roof arrangement — including proprietary issues — remained sketchy as *Golf Course News* went to press in

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## Karsten Lab to address desert issues

By MARK LESLIE

TUCSON, Ariz. — Golf courses in desert regions can expect to reap benefits from major research that will be conducted at the University of Arizona's new Desert Turfgrass Research Facility and Karsten Laboratory for TurfScience here.

"We have four or five different, specific problems we have in the desert that need to be addressed," said Dr. David Kopeck, Extension specialist for turf in Arizona. Major targets will be developing irrigation schedules and water-use programs, breeding new turfgrasses, dealing with effluent, and perfecting techniques for weed control and overseeding.

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Sometimes you can't wait on a grow-in, page 46  
Sod Story



## Asian shows

Continued from page 1

late June. Sources indicated officials from GCSAA and Connex were scheduled to meet in Kansas City to formalize the agreement around June 24. Sources also indicated International Management Group — the Cleveland-based sports representation and real estate colossus — played a major role in bringing the two sides together. The U.S. Government also played a role.

"We obviously encouraged the merger of the shows," said Paul Bucher, manager of Trade Fair Certification at the Department of Commerce. "This [the mega show] is what every exhibitor wanted. If everything works out, it should be an incredible boon to the industry."

Golf Asia, staged annually by Connex since 1991, was the only

game in town until GCSAA launched its Pacific Rim show in March of 1993. Though reports out of GCSAA headquarters indicated the show was a success, suppliers to the golf industry voiced their displeasure with the 1993 arrangement: Two shows, one week apart, forcing companies to choose shows or pay for attending both.

The combination of Golf Asia and Pacific Rim now means a one-stop shopping venue for the Asia-Pacific market. Golf Asia has tailored much of its show to the consumer (clubs, shoes, etc.), with a very strong development

component (architects and builders) and a smattering of golf course maintenance exhibitors.

The 1993 GCSAA Pacific Rim Show was designed exclusively for the golf course management industry, with a few architects on hand.

"I think any merger or joint action that strengthens the overall industry in Asia is good," said Owen Towne, manager of International Turf and Ornamental for Ciba. "The decision of the two to merge just makes it an easy decision for us as to which show to attend."

Until now, that decision was not so easy for some suppliers, especially irrigation firms, who didn't

know which show had properly pegged their market. Most observers agree the Asian market is far more development oriented, whereby new course construction plays a larger role than maintenance. Further, superintendents don't appear to have the buying responsibilities enjoyed by their North American counterparts.

Added Brenda Dossey, manager of special projects for Farmer's Marketing Corp.: "While the golf course market in Asia is experiencing healthy growth, I don't believe the market is mature enough to support two major shows. I feel this agreement will

help all of us living outside the region to better focus and direct our resources."

Along with most everyone else, the U.S. Department of Commerce — which granted Golf Asia its official Trade Fair Certification in 1992 and 1993 — was taken completely off guard by the agreement.

"In fact," said Bucher, "we have already sent the letter certifying Golf Asia for 1994. We were convinced, as were most observers, that both shows would run separately next year."

"However, I would see no problem in certifying the whole kit and kaboodle for 1994."

## Poa Trivialis

Continued from page 37

10 years as demand has grown for grasses that use less water, grow more slowly, tolerate various stresses and require less pesticide. The result has been researchers scouring Africa in search of Bermudagrass, the Midwest in the quest for buffalograss and the North for bentgrass.

Of all the material collected, 90 to 95 percent is eventually thrown away, Hurley said. Those possessing the most favorable characteristics are kept and bred.

The result in recent years has been grasses that stand upright, are more attractive and are more resistant to fungi like dollar spot.

Research on specific seed types, Hurley said, has led to some positive results in recent years, such as:

- Attractive bluegrasses with high seed yields, an unusual combination for this turf type;

- Perennial ryegrasses with improved cold tolerance, brown patch resistance, color and seed yield. Despite these advances, ryegrass seed prices have remained roughly the same as they were in the early 1970s. Little progress has been made in the battle against crown rust, red thread and pink patch.

- Tall fescues have been developed that can thrive even in such hot, humid climates as that found in Tokyo. They are requiring less irrigation and are increasingly tolerant of shade. Hard, chewing and sheep fescues are particularly low-maintenance turfs. Brown patch and pythium remain a problem, although new chewings fescues are proving resistant to take-all patch.

## Turf acquisition

Continued from page 37

Southern California mesh perfectly with Southern Turf's sod and sprig production units in Georgia, Virginia and Hawaii."

Holmes added: "Discussions with Southern Turf management and partners have been ongoing for quite some time, with most of our focus on the geographic synergy of the two companies."

GOLF COURSE NEWS

# YOUR SEED SOURCE

Carl Aebersold, harvesting crew foreman at Pacific Sod, Camarillo, CA, is pleased with the above-, and below-surface performance of dwarfed Monarch turf-type tall fescue.

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	Omega II
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	Saturn
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Improved hard fescue	Aurora
Improved Chewings fescue	Shadow
Improved Sheeps fescue	Bighorn
Improved creeping fescue	Fortress
	Shademaster
Improved tall fescue	Apache
	Bonanza
	Confederate blend
	Eldorado
	Monarch
	MowLess blend
	Murietta
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