

GOLF COURSE NEWS

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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.

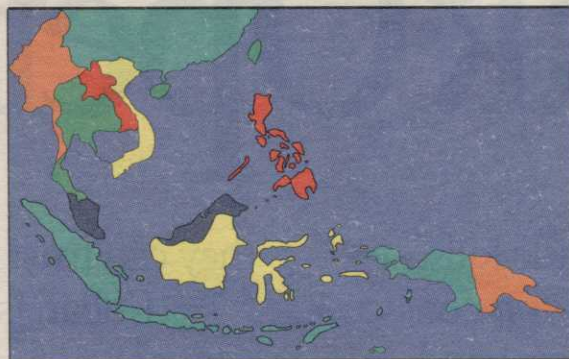
The \$14 million Reclaimed Water Distribution System (RWDS) is the newest phase of the master plan, begun in the 1950s, to irrigate the West. Next up will be the 1995 start-up of an effluent plant that will treat water from the major development area in north Scottsdale. That water will be reinserted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

Continued on page 32



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 Kaupulehu 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

Continued on page 41

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 Kopec, 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.

Continued on page 24

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

Desert turf issues being tackled by new Univ. of Arizona lab

Continued from page 1

Kopec and Dr. Charles Mancino will oversee the facility, which has benefited from donations of money and equipment from scores of companies and the Cactus & Pine Golf Course Superintendents Association, among others.

"This is a budding example of how the industry can support the universities and stay close to their programs. And the cost-benefit ratio is tremendous for everyone involved," said Kopec.

The number-one benefit will be

the laboratory's work aimed at decreasing water application to sports turfs by having better techniques in irrigation scheduling, he said. "Second, we need to develop new grass varieties that would use less water than Bermudagrass and that would be suitable as a grass cover. We're not looking to replace a 2-1/2 acre ballfield of highly trafficked Bermudagrass with another grass. We're looking to develop new grasses, perhaps domesticate some naturally occurring desert species into a turf

setting where it would retain 95 to 100 percent grass cover and take five or six irrigations during the summertime at most."

Research on effluent water and secondary reclaimed water for turf will be "a strong part of the program because there's quite a populace being established in the Southwest and the research we do here is applicable to Tucson, Phoenix, Las Vegas and deserts of Southern California," Kopec said.

"There are 500-plus golf courses in this area and a lot of their turfs need this special management."

Weed control is a problem at desert courses in the Southwest, he said, because Bermudagrass is grown in the summertime and courses overseed with ryegrasses and other cool-season grasses from October to May.

Mancino is looking in to curly mesquitegrass, a low-maintenance

grass native in Arizona at 2,800 feet and above.

"For lower elevations, we're looking at buffalograss, salt grass, paspalums and potential domestication of some other range species. Some would be applicable to golf courses," Kopec said.

The eight-acre facility includes 6-1/2 acres of turf. The laboratory structure contains a wet laboratory, office space, equipment garage and storage space.

Crucial to research efforts are the world's two largest lysimeters — 12-foot-deep, seven-foot-in-diameter tanks containing 50 tons of soil on scales sensitive enough to measure 250 grams (the weight of the morning dew) in weight change.

Kopec and Mancino are looking forward to initiation of a new funding mechanism being worked out by the Arizona Golf Association and

turfgrass industry along with Dr. Merle Jensen, UA's associate dean for sponsored projects.

Called the Turfgrass Futures Investment (TFI) program, it would infuse revenue from golf played in the state into research, education and extension programs at the university.

This will provide long-term support for graduate students, technical assistants, research operations, and educational activities. TFI has been discussed for two years, but Kopec reported "a lot of activity" in the last three months.

"The industry has been fabulous with donating equipment. To complete the army, I just need some soldiers," Kopec said. "The game of golf is an important part of the American economy and just 10 cents per round can kick back a 10,000-times-over return on a project."

EPA document

Continued from page 13

study, or may warrant additional regulatory actions to prevent ground water contamination.

EPA is developing new rules to address threats to ground water by restricting the use of some pesticides to trained applicators, and requiring State Management Plans for the most serious contaminants. On the state and local level, EPA's

data base may be useful in targeting resources for monitoring and assessing effectiveness of pesticide management practices.

Copies of the National Summary and the 10 separate regional volumes are available in paper copy or microfiche from the National Technical Information Service (703-487-4650 or 800-557-NTIS). The paper copy of the summary is \$36.50 and microfiche is \$17.50; others vary from \$19.50 to \$112.00.

Correction

Because of a reporting error, a piece of misinformation appeared in last month's product feature on combating dandelions and clover (page 20). Bill Spence, grounds superintendent at The Country Club in Brookline, Mass., was not referring to Gallery when he

described a bad experience with a herbicide application. Spence was referring to another chemical used in the 1970s while he was at Pebble Beach Corp. "I am very excited about Gallery," he said. "In fact, we've used it without any problems for three seasons and intend to continue to expand its use in our programs."

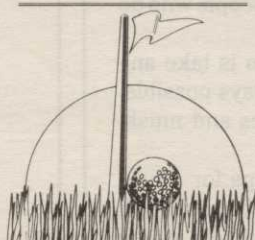
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Artist, Audubon to produce course paintings

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Adriano Manocchia, an internationally acclaimed artist of sporting scenes and wildlife, has been selected by the Audubon Society of New York State to create a series of prints to benefit the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses (ACSP). Manocchia, in association with Somerset House Publishing, will donate a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the prints of famous golf courses to further the work of the ACSP.

Upon the release of Adriano Manocchia's print, "TPC at Sawgrass, The 16th and 17th Holes," golfer Ben Crenshaw said: "I'm pleased that the ACSP is taking such an active role in showing how golf courses can enhance and protect wildlife habitat. Golf courses over the years have provided valuable open spaces, greenbelts, and natural sanctuaries for wildlife. I am hopeful that the efforts of the ACSP will increase public awareness about the positive effects a golf course can offer to the environment."

The five prints in the series published by Somerset House Publishing feature Pinehurst Resort and Country Club in North Carolina; TPC at Sawgrass near Jacksonville, Fla.; Barton Creek Country Club near Austin, Texas; Harbour Town Golf Links at Sea Pines in Hilton Head, S.C.; and TPC at Scottsdale in Arizona.



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