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GOLF COURSE NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

A UNITED PUBLICATION
VOLUME 5, NUMBER 3
MARCH 1993

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Growing Pains

Terry Buchen has grown in 11 golf courses. His checklist may interest those trying it for the first time 15

Landmark Appraisal

The RTC has retained Casper Golf Management to assess the value of former Landmark properties 49

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A sump pump to drain soggy fairways? Steven Renzetti successfully applies this basement logic 62

First family of design reunited in Florida

Robert Sr., Bobby Jones collaborate

By MARK LESLIE

ORLANDO, Fla. — After 20 years, the Joneses are back together. Robert Trent Jones Sr. and Jr. — Trent and Bobby.

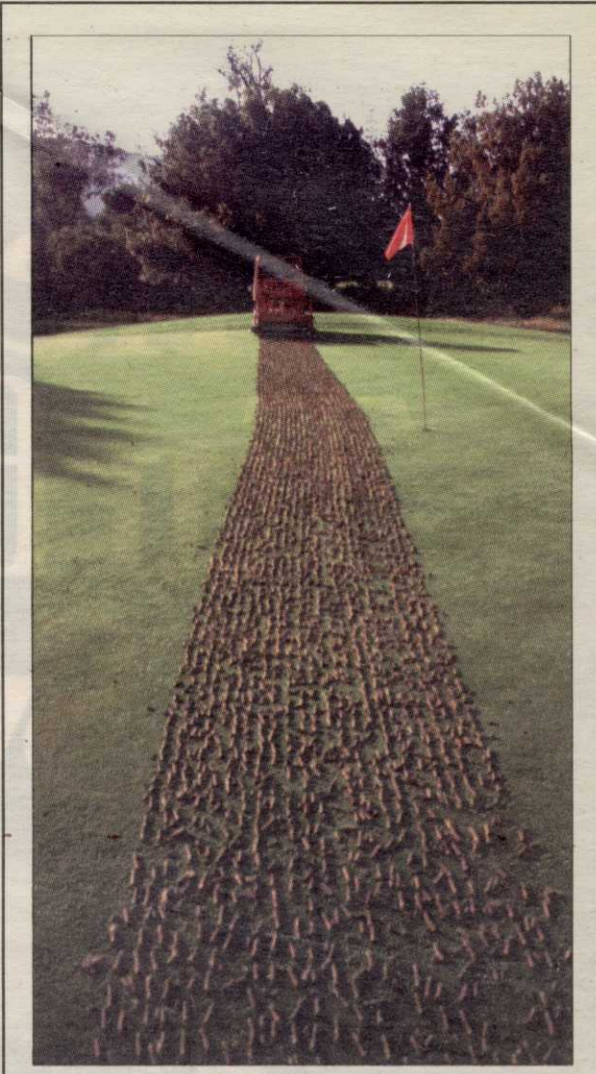
Father and son have agreed with Disney Development Co. to design an 18-hole public daily-fee golf course as part of Disney's next major undertaking, Celebration. A small-town community steeped in the past yet incorporating cutting-edge ideas for the fu-

ture, the city of Celebration will be built on 4,000 to 5,000 acres of Disney-owned land here, according to Tom Sunnarborg, Disney's development manager for recreation and amenities.

"We're excited," said Robert Trent "Bobby" Jones Jr. "I think it will be fun for both of us. It is fun for both of us.

"I've spent a lot of time with my father in Florida since my mother died [July

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SPECIAL REPORT: BERMUDAGRASS

A new technology from Britain enables superintendents to overseed with Bermudagrass (above). For this and more breaking news on Bermudagrass, see pages 25-29.

Posting & Notification

Should the chemical industry pursue a national standard?

By HAL PHILLIPS

While the party line is clear enough, the debate persists among chemical industry executives who disagree on whether the country needs a nationwide, standardized posting and notification statute.

Twenty-three states have already adopted their own P&N laws, which require applicators to inform abutting property owners of what is being applied and when. However, each state has different standards for signage, setback and other "precautionary" measures. While groups such as RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment) have fought and will continue to fight such laws, sober observation would point to the proliferation of such laws in the remaining 27 states.

Some in the chemical in-

dustry, however, see this struggle as an uphill battle not worth fighting. Ron Fister, director of specialty sales at Sandoz Agro Inc., believes the industry should seek a nationwide posting and notification statute that would standardize requirements (thereby saving companies money) and project a pro-active image for manufacturers of pesticides, herbicides and

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Course owners warned of mystery medical liabilities

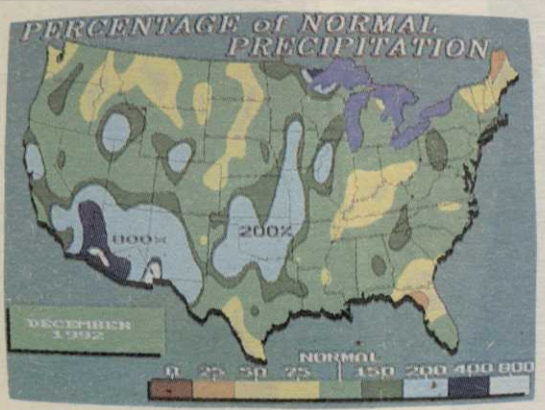
By KIT BRADSHAW

The clinical ecologists have. The media have. And golf course owners had better become more familiar with MCSS — that's the message from Orlando attorney David Henry, who spoke at February's National Golf Course Owners Association Conference here in Orlando.

"Generally speaking, those who claim to have Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Syndrome (MCSS) say that exposure to toxic chemicals or poisons has caused a disregulation of the immune system. This has created such symptoms as respiratory problems, itching, nausea, headaches, and so on," said Henry.

Two problems have occurred with this syndrome, he pointed out. First, there is not a lot of clinical evidence to support the claim; and second, physicians who call

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WEATHER-TRACKING TECHNOLOGY

This map, from a company called WeatherVector, displays two things: 1- The West Coast is drought-stricken no longer (page 3); and 2- The golf industry is missing the boat if it doesn't exploit the technology at its disposal (page 53).

COURSE MAINTENANCE

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Members soundly defeat bylaw amendments

By PETER BLAIS

While the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America board of directors may have suffered a black eye from the overwhelming rejection of the proposed bylaw changes, the board and association probably sustained no permanent damage.

"If anything, I walked away from the annual meeting thinking we were a stronger organization," said Bob Maibusch of Hinsdale (Ill.) Golf Club, one of the bylaw changes more vocal critics.

"It could turn into a real positive in the long run if it

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SHOW WRAP-UP

The 64th International Conference and Show drew a near-record 16,000 golf industry members to Anaheim. For complete coverage of the politics, education, merchandising and assorted pageantry, turn to pages 30-39.

Club Managers undergo shake-up

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The Club Managers Association of America (CMAA) has undergone organizational changes as a result of a recent strategic planning process.

Those changes will include the separation of CMAA departments into two primary divisions which will both be managed by vice presidents. One division, to be headed by Dr. Bob Hassmiller, will oversee the areas of membership and chapter services, education and certification.

Vice President Kathi Pernel Driggs will oversee the other — a

new club services department, legislative and regulatory resources, executive career services, communications and marketing functions as well as allied association relations.

Hassmiller will return to CMAA after a brief leave of absence from his director of education position. He managed the development and introduction of the association's Business Management Institute program.

Driggs has served as CMAA's director of public affairs for the past six years.

CMAA taps Sweeney

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Les Sweeney has been appointed director of membership/chapter services of the Club Managers Association of America (CMAA). He replaces Steve Swafford. As Director, Sweeney will administer CMAA's membership and chapter programs, as well as student development. Sweeney had been CMAA's manager of professional development.

Medical liabilities for course owners

Continued from page 1

themselves clinical ecologists — and who have become spokespeople for this syndrome — are regular physicians who have created this specialty, a specialty which is not recognized by any medical regulatory program.

"I see that the biggest problem for golf course owners isn't going to be from the general public, but from their employees," said Tallahassee toxicologist Dr. Bob Budinsky. "The employees who handle pesticides and herbicides could claim chemical exposure because of poor work-

place practices. And even if this employee doesn't become a patient of a clinical ecologist or even claim that they have the syndrome, they may claim that chemical exposure caused their illness under Workmen's Compensation.

"Golf course owners, who use pesticides and herbicides to maintain the course are susceptible to litigation. This is a real serious problem."

Budinsky said in an interview that, "This is an evolving area of medicine right now. Is the syndrome real? Is it not real? We don't know. As far as the clinical ecologists are concerned, we know they are physicians, usually immunologists or allergists, but their type of medicine and their treatment program is highly questionable."

He noted the treatment could include "neutralization" techniques, whereby the patient is given a small dosage of the allergen. When a patient has been exposed to a chemical, there are guidelines to determine whether or not the problem is chemically induced. However, he added, "clinical ecologists don't have these guidelines."

"Right now," Budinsky continued, "We don't see any lawsuits involving golf courses. It is more likely that the people who claim to have the syndrome would be targeting a building, claiming the 'sick building' syndrome is causing their problem."

"To the extent possible," he said, "the owner should encourage the employee who is complaining about a possible chemical exposure problem to go to an independent doctor who treats thousands of patients, rather than going to one of these clinical ecologists."

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MEDIA
INTELLIGENCE



Employers — ADA

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people who are trying to get into your facility. It also means that the disabled cannot be placed in one area and those who are not disabled in another," she continued. "Your dining facility, for instance, must be accessible to everyone."

"Some of the areas that may be covered would be ramping for wheelchairs, Braille markings on elevators, widening doorways, having lower shelves for merchandise and providing grab bars in the restrooms."

The law not only covers modifications to existing buildings, but remodelings and the construction of new buildings.

There is help for golf course owners who need more information, O'Neal said. West Virginia University has a "Job Accommodation Network" at 1-800-526-7234. The Building Owners and Management Association in Washington, D.C. has an ADA checklist and the Department of Justice also has ADA information. In Atlanta, there is the Southeast Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center, which has several helpful booklets. They can be obtained by called 1-800-949-4ADA.