

SB
433
.G4
V.5
NO.3

GOLF COURSE NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

A UNITED PUBLICATION
VOLUME 5, NUMBER 3
MARCH 1993

INSIDE

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

On the Green

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.

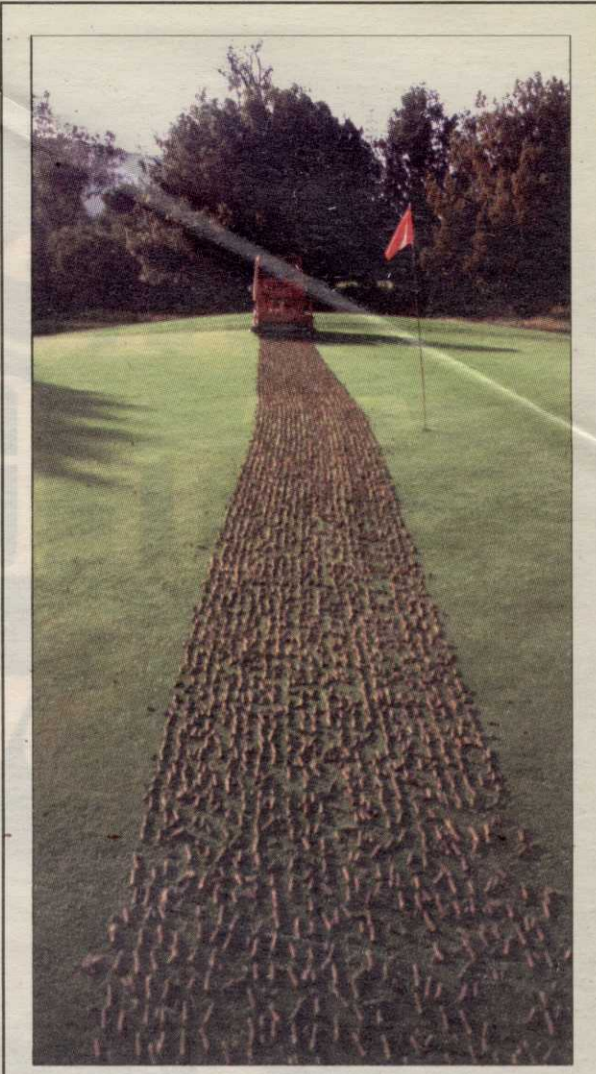
Father and son have agreed with Disney Development Co. to design an 18-hole public daily-fee golf course as part of Disney's next major undertaking, Celebration. A small-town community steeped in the past yet incorporating cutting-edge ideas for the fu-

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.

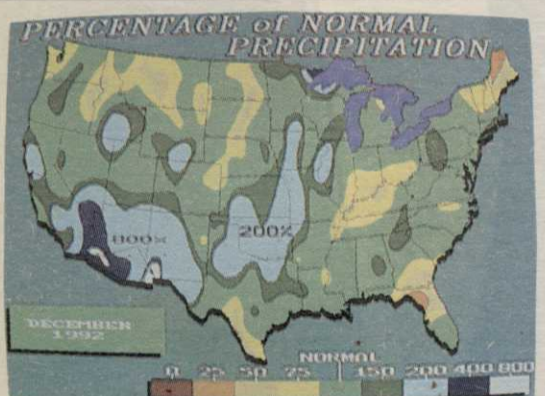
"I've spent a lot of time with my father in Florida since my mother died [July

Continued on page 48



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.



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).

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

Continued on page 58

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

Continued on page 52

COURSE MAINTENANCE
This month's Tour of Duty 15
Focus on Shannon Cook of Monterey CC 16
Tournament preparation: Part II 24

COURSE DEVELOPMENT
Sarazen, Whitworth & Snead design dream 18 41
Brent Wadsworth is 1993's Ross recipient 41
An update on Asian development 41,44

COURSE MANAGEMENT
Military course bill introduced on the Hill 49
Anti-golf tax legislation defeated in N.H. 50
Organizational changes take hold at CMAA 52

SUPPLIER BUSINESS
Ciba-Geigy, Rain Bird honor superintendents 53
Lofts Seed expands golf course division 55
What's new in the marketplace 57

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

Continued on page 39



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.

Most proposed GCSAA bylaw changes absorb harsh defeat

Show Time '93

Continued from page 1

makes the board really look at issues before presenting them to the membership the next time."

By wide margins at the Jan. 30 annual meeting, members rejected proposals to give the board authority to set dues; replace the delegate voting system with a one-person-one-vote format; change the two-thirds vote needed for passing association proposals to a simple majority; and restructure membership classes to encourage non-superintendents to join the association.

The only change passed was one altering the wording in the articles of incorporation.

"The membership spoke pretty clearly. They weren't in agreement with the direction the directors wanted to take us on those issues," said Dick Stuntz, head superintendent at Alvarado Country Club in Lawrence, Kansas.

In fact, their support of the proposed bylaw changes undoubtedly contributed to the defeats of incumbent directors Charles Passios and Joseph Hahn.

"They felt passing the bylaws was important. They were sort of victimized by their support for them," said newly elected President Randy Nichols.

Maibusch agreed.

"I have the utmost respect for both of those guys," he said. "Everyone on the board is dedicated to the association. Joe and Charlie are excellent superintendents. You've got to give them credit for standing up for what they believed in. Their defeats had nothing to do with their qualifications. They were adamant supporters of the changes and it hurt them."

Few were surprised by the one-sidedness of the vote.

"After talking to a few people during the week, you knew how it was going to go," Maibusch said.

Added Stuntz: "For all the controversy, when it came time to vote, there was very little discussion. It only took about a half hour."

Despite the vote, opponents and proponents agreed there was some good in the proposals. They will likely be modified and re-introduced at future meetings, they said.

For example, Maibusch speculated that a proposal giving the board power to raise dues every so often and within certain guidelines would likely receive support.

"Say the board came up with something like they could raise dues 10 percent and not more than once every three years unless the membership approved. Something like that might pass," he said.

The vote against reclassifying memberships could make it more difficult to attract new members, particularly non-superintendents, said Nichols, who predicted the matter would resurface in the near future.

Members might support new membership classifications with assurances that superintendents would continue to control their

association, Maibusch said.

"Reclassifying memberships should be put to a member-wide vote," he said. "Superintendents are concerned about the membership going from something like 12,000 to 35,000 in a short period of time and realizing that 20,000 or more of those new members would not be superintendents.

"They may not want voting privileges today. But at some point, particularly if their dues are similar to ours, they are going to want voting rights. That means 10 to 15 years from now, we could be in a position where we really aren't a

superintendents' association any longer."

Added Maibusch: "I'm afraid the association might have gotten too caught up in being a business rather than an association. To increase our membership just to have larger numbers isn't good. The association isn't in this just to make money, but to help the superintendent. The bottom line isn't the only thing that should count with an association."

Some charged that the board and staff did a poor job communicating the reasons for and the effects of the proposed changes.

Nichols disagreed, pointing out

that board members visited 35 regional chapter meetings to explain the proposals.

"I don't think that's a fair criticism," Nichols said. "If we didn't communicate the changes adequately [with that many visits], I don't know what else we could have done.

"I don't think the members necessarily understood all the issues. Again, I think the superintendents are basically conservative and were saying they liked the way we've done things in the past, so why change."

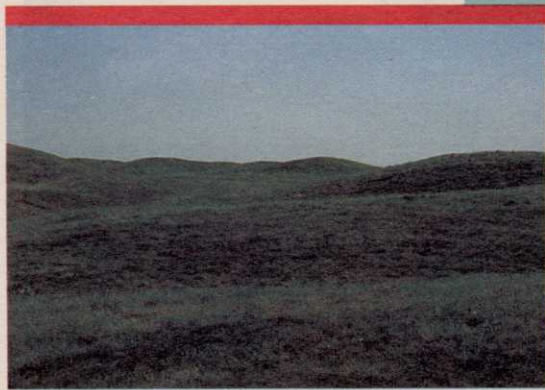
Maibusch agreed that the board did a good job trying to

communicate the reasons for the proposed changes by visiting so many chapters. His main concern was the "one-sided" treatment afforded the bylaw issues by *Golf Course Management* magazine, which is published by the GCSAA.

"We never saw a dissenting viewpoint there," Maibusch said. "The magazine was used politically.

"I know the board won't let that happen again. I have a lot of confidence in the people on the board."

From Planning Through Completion... Lofts' Service Made a Difference.



Designing and developing a golf course has many aspects. But when it came to the turf for the Atlantic Golf Club, Rees Jones knew he could depend on the service and technical support from Lofts.

How to create the "links land" look. What grasses would do best in different areas. The agronomic techniques for establishing the grasses. And a suggested maintenance program Bob Ranum could consider following for the continued success of the course. All with cost-saving tips included.

Lofts is the world's largest marketer of turfgrass seed. So you can expect the finest varieties available. The professional service and technical support are bonuses. Get it all from Lofts and realize the difference!



Over \$100,000 in scholarships already presented to Rutgers University turfgrass students



Bob Ranum, Golf Course Superintendent, Atlantic Golf Club located in Southampton, Long Island, NY, and Dr. Richard Hurley, Director of Research, Lofts Seed Inc.



Lofts Seed Inc.

World's largest marketer of turfgrass seed
Bound Brook, NJ 08805
(908) 356-8700 • (800) 526-3890

Lofts/Maryland
Beltsville, MD
(301) 937-9292
(800) 732-3332

Lofts/Great Western
Albany, OR
(503) 928-3100
(800) 547-4063

Sunbelt Seeds, Inc.
Norcross, GA
(404) 448-9932
(800) 522-7333

Lofts/New England
Arlington, MA
(617) 648-7550
(800) 648-7333

Lofts/Ohio
Wilmington, OH
(513) 382-1127
(800) 328-1127

To locate the Lofts' distributor nearest you, call
(800) 526-3890 (Eastern US) • (800) 547-4063 (Western US)

Seeding a new course or doing some renovations?
Call for **FREE** Guide to Turfgrass Selection for
Golf Courses (908) 560-1590 or (800) 526-3890.