

NEWS IN BRIEF

MARYSVILLE, Ohio — One-year results from a yard compost study conducted by O. M. Scott & Sons finds no detectable levels of pesticides, herbicides, PCBs or dioxins in the final compost. Scott is testing yard compost from several counties in central Ohio.

TAYLOR, Texas — Construction of an 18-hole golf course on 300 mostly vacant acres in Taylor's southwest section may benefit the site's contaminated soils. Soil samples at the site have indicated higher than normal concentrations of copper, lead and zinc. The architectural firm of Arthur Hill & Associates, Toledo, Ohio, has been among consultants working on the estimated \$9 million project.

METHYL BROMIDE, the world's most widely-used pesticide, recently was declared an ozone depleter by the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, a group of nations that signed a treaty to protect the ozone layer. The group agreed that by 1995, production and use would be frozen at 1991 levels.

BERWICK TOWNSHIP, Pa. — The Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Resources is the last hurdle for a planned \$1 million, 18-hole golf course here. Property owner Michael Bross said tentative course plans were submitted to Berwick Township six months ago. Bross' area is one of three in the township under a building moratorium imposed last December by DER because of malfunctioning septic systems.

DAVIS, Calif. — Davis has been planning for three years to expand the 18-hole Davis Municipal GC. City officials now are poised to act, but officials in Yolo County, site of the targeted 150 acres south of the course, are concerned about agricultural buffers, conservation easements and the project's possible growth-inducing aspects.

Feast replaces famine in once-arid California



The first hole at Aliso Creek Golf Course, a nine-hole track in South Laguna Beach, Calif. The creek overflowed its banks during the heavy rains of January and was closed for two weeks.

Torrential rains present a different sort of water problem west of Rockies

By DOUG SAUNDERS

The fickleness of Mother Nature has never been more evident than during the past two months in California. The state had been through six years of persistent drought resulting in exorbitant water rates, cutbacks in mandatory water-use, and demand for creative irrigation plans on the part of golf course superintendents.

Even in early November the prognosis for improvement was not good, as long range forecasts called for below normal precipitation for another wet season.

But all that changed in December and January, as the heavens opened in unprecedented fashion. The Los Angeles area picked up more than 13 inches of rain in January and close to 9 inches in one five-day period. In Northern California, heavy rains pelted the coast and, more important, more than 40 feet of snow fell during a 50-day period in the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range.

By the end of January the snowpack, which is critical for spring runoff that fills the state's reservoirs, stood at an average of 10 feet at the 8,000-foot level. The snows put the pack at 178 percent of normal with two months of winter weather to go.

The unusual weather impacted many courses throughout the state. At La Costa Resort in Carlsbad, superintendent Harold Vaubel had his hands full keeping the course playable for the Infinity Tournament of Champions the first week of January. San Marcos Creek grew into a 300-foot-wide lake in front of the 18th green. After the tourney it really started raining.

"We had 17 inches last month alone," Vaubel said. "I lost 15 of 30 bridges on the course including five major ones."

Vaubel's maintenance shed was swamped with 43 inches of water, destroy-

Continued on page 11

True Temper Sports president named chairman of NGF

ORLANDO, Fla. — Ed Van Dyke, president of True Temper Sports, has been elected chairman of the National Golf Foundation's board of directors. He succeeds Chuck Yash, president of Taylor Made Golf.

The election of officers took place at February's NGF Board meeting at the Clarion Hotel. Also elected were: Vice Chairman Ed Abrain, vice president/general manager, Golf Division, Wilson Sporting Goods Co.; Secretary Patrick O'Grady, senior vice president/general manager, Golf Division, Etonic, Inc.; Treasurer Peter Bonanni, publisher, *GOLF* Magazine and President & CEO Joseph F. Beditz, NGF.

Bloch elected to second term as USGA president

FARHILLS, N.J. — Stuart F. Bloch of Wheeling, W. Va., has been elected to his second one-year term as the 52nd President of the United States Golf Association.

The election of USGA officers took place during the 99th Annual Meeting of the USGA held Feb. 6, 1993, in Nashville, Tenn. Other officers elected were: Reg Murphy, Baltimore, Md., vice-president; M.J. Mastalir Jr., Denver, Colo., vice-president; Judy Bell, Colorado Springs, Colo., secretary; F. Morgan Taylor Jr., Hobe Sound, Fla., treasurer; Leroy C. Richie, Birmingham, Mich., general counsel.

SURE-FLO
The Self-Cleaning Strainer

Several styles of foot valves with Self-Cleaning Strainers.



patent no. 4822486

High and low pressure models available.

Manufactured by:
Perfection Sprinkler Co.

2077 S. State St.
P.O. Box 1363
Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Phone 313-761-5110
FAX 313-761-8659



CIRCLE #101

THE SECRET BEHIND
50 OF THE WORLD'S
BEST CONDITIONED
COURSES

Muirfield Village Golf Club, Dublin, Ohio.
Year after year, considered by PGA professionals to be the best conditioned course on the U.S. Tour.

- TURF ESTABLISHMENT PROGRAMS / GROW-IN OF NEW COURSES
- MAINTENANCE BUDGET ANALYSIS / PROGRAMS
 - GREENS CONDITIONING
- IRRIGATION / DRAINAGE CONSULTATION
- RENOVATION PROGRAMS FOR EXISTING COURSES

golfturf

A Division of Golden Bear International

11780 U.S. Highway One, North Palm Beach, FL 33408
(407) 626-3900, FAX: (407) 626-4104

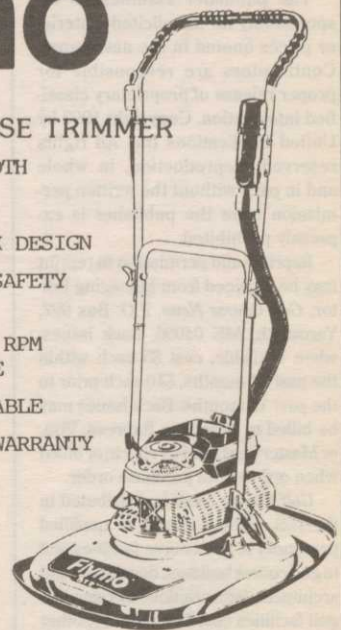
39 Conduit Rd., Suite 209, Hong Kong, (852) 540-0312, Fax: (852) 540-0326

CIRCLE # 102

Flymo®

GCT 20 GOLF COURSE TRIMMER

- * 20 INCH CUTTING WIDTH
- * WEIGHT 34 LBS
- * NEW REINFORCED DECK DESIGN
- * PATENTED & PROVEN SAFETY CUTTING SYSTEM
- * 98cc/2 STROKE/4200 RPM POWERFUL JLO ENGINE
- * COMPLETELY REBUILDABLE
- * 1 YEAR COMMERCIAL WARRANTY (ENGINE ONLY)



PRECISION
SMALL ENGINE CO.
POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA
(305) 974-1960 OR 1-800-345-1960
REPS WANTED

CIRCLE #103

Rains raise havoc with Western United States golf courses

Continued from page 3

ing all of his irrigation computer hardware and severely damaging his extensive machinery inventory.

At nearby Whispering Palms Resort in Rancho Santa Fe, the rains sent the San Dieguito River over its banks eroding through five fairways and closing the course for a week.

Superintendent Larry Jones also had a unique guest on his course one morning, a 500-pound sea lion.

"Over thirty inches of rain fell on Mount Palomar and the runoff forced water over the Lake Hodges Dam," Jones said.

"The seal had made its way up the river three and a half miles inland following an easy catch of fresh trout and bass that had washed over the dam."

At Temecula Creek Resort, site of nationally televised flooding, the course itself received minimal damage from the creek overflow.

"We only had damage from the

runoff from Interstate 15's drainage pipes that dump near the 9th fairway of the Stonehouse nine," said Assistant Course Superintendent Bill Huss. A temporary bridge to get over the accumulated debris had to be built, but play on the course was never hampered.

"Our course was built in 1969, another wet season, and the architect, Ted Robinson, obviously learned where the flooding problems would be and how to plan for course drainage. That knowledge

really showed last month," Huss said.

In fact the drought situation has forced course superintendents to work on different ways to control runoff of irrigation water and rain water in hopes of capturing the runoff.

At the Meadow Club in Fairfax, the private club has been involved in a drainage plan for the past 10 years.

"Our water came entirely from country water supplies," said Bob Bruner of the Meadow Club.

"We've been working to hold on to, and reuse, as much irrigation water as possible.

"We've been redoing our cart paths in concrete that directs runoff to collection areas for trench drains that carry the water back to a holding pond for re-use."

With the Marin County area receiving more than 30 inches of rain, the reservoirs are full.

But the idea of sufficient water has not entered into the equation here.

"The restrictions that we have been under for the past few years may be relaxed, but the cost of the water will certainly not do down," said Bruner.

"We have learned first to deal with the water situation from a supply standpoint. Now we look at dealing with the water situation from an economic standpoint."

With a solid snowpack for the first time in five years, the potential for more water availability exists.

But recently passed federal water allocation laws have added another wrinkle to the water equation. More water is to be allocated for wildlife and metropolitan areas out of the enormous amounts of water controlled by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

But no one in the golf industry thinks massive amounts of inexpensive water will be coming their way.

"I have already been informed by the Southern California Metropolitan Water District of future water allocations for our courses," Vaubel explained.

"In the next five to eight years our water rates will double. We will continue to work on better ways to get along with less water."

N.C. symposium studies course effects on coast

WILMINGTON, N.C. — The impact of increased golf courses on the coastal environment will be explored at a symposium March 24, at the University of North Carolina here.

Panelists will discuss issues relating to wildlife and natural habitats, coastal water quality, and community concerns. Speakers include representatives of the golfing industry and conservation groups, scientists, policy makers and environmental regulators.

Information compiled will be presented to policy makers for their use in determining adequacy of current laws and regulations relating to the siting and operation of golf courses in the North Carolina coastal zone.

For more information telephone Lauren Kolodij at 919-393-8185.



PHOTOGRAPHED AT BLACK WOLF RUN, KOHLER, WIS.

our family picture current

climbing ability, and John Deere 26-inch cutting units allows the 2653 to mow where others can't.

Powered by a liquid-cooled 18-hp engine, the 2653 has the guts to work through wet, lush, or long grass—plus the ground-hugging capability to mow evenly over undulating terrain.

When you consider the rest

of the picture—bunker rakes, walking greens mowers, riding greens mowers, vacuums, front mowers, tractors, and more—you begin to see why we're so proud of our growing family.

For the name of your nearest distributor, or free literature, call 1-800-544-2122. Or write John Deere, Dept. 956, Moline, IL.



NOTHING RUNS
LIKE A DEERE®

