

# GOLF COURSE NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

A UNITED PUBLICATION  
VOLUME 6, NUMBER 1  
JANUARY 1994 • \$4.50

## INSIDE

### Browner Speaks

EPA chief Carol Browner discusses golf course maintenance practices — a *GCN* exclusive ..... 11

### Jobs: Lost and Found

A special section investigates why superintendents lose their jobs, and how they can find new ones ..... 25

### New Features

USGA agronomists weigh in with research data and *GCN* explores issues surrounding public golf .... 41,78



#### ENVIROTRON ON LINE

Professor Bert McCarty discusses the rhizotron, a portion of the Envirotron that studies root growth. The much-anticipated Envirotron is on line at the University of Florida. Turf research may never be the same (see page 37).

#### COURSE MAINTENANCE

Grow-in: Everything you ever wanted to know ..... 25  
On the Green: Solving bunker contamination ..... 26  
Ohio Turf Conference coverage begins on page .... 27

#### COURSE DEVELOPMENT

Congress acts on endangered species, wetlands .... 43  
Foster's much-anticipated Quarry debuts ..... 43  
Designing Woman: Viola active globally ..... 47

#### COURSE MANAGEMENT

AMF has grand plans for Kiawah Island ..... 59  
Owners honor ClubCorp's Robert Dedman ..... 59  
NGF seminar scheduled for early January ..... 62

#### SUPPLIER BUSINESS

Certification program undertaken in Florida ..... 65  
Golf Car Report: Calif. emissions; Melex hires ..... 68  
What's new in the marketplace? ..... 72,73



Steve Mona

## Mona era begins in Lawrence

By HAL PHILLIPS

ATLANTA — The idea was born over an informal lunch here last August, when Steve Mona — then executive director of the Georgia State Golf Association — shared a bite with Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) President Randy Nichols, who has known Mona since 1983.

Five months later, the August luncheon has taken on historic significance: Mona is the new executive director at GCSAA, replacing the departed John Schilling.

Mona's tenure officially began Jan. 5, but his coming out party will take place in Dallas later this month, when GCSAA holds the 65th International Golf Course Conference and Show (see special section, page xx). Mona firmly believes his new job is all about creating positive relationships, and he plans to start right away.

"I'm coming into this with a mandate to work on building relationships: With our local chapters, our allied associations and the media," said Mona. "The day before the Dallas conference, Joe Baidy [who as-

Continued on page 21

## Little conflict awaits supers in Big D

By PETER BLAIS

DALLAS — It may not be all peace and harmony on the eve of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) annual meeting. But it's a darn sight quieter than during the NAFTA-like squabbles that preceded last year's vote on the proposed bylaw amendments.

Everyone may not agree with this year's proposals. But most believe the pro-

### Special Show Section, pages 15-23

cess of communicating with and seeking input from members has gone much smoother than a year ago when even board member George Renault noted, "Many people feel like these [proposed changes] are being rammed down their throats."

September's meeting of chapter delegates in Lawrence, Kan., to discuss the proposals left many feeling this year's board was sincerely interested in explaining the need for the changes and seeking input from the chapter level.

Patty Knaggs, head superintendent at Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska, Minn. and formerly of Westchester Coun-

Continued on page 18

## Reservoir eases water pressure in California

By PETER BLAIS

HEMET, Calif. — The \$2 billion Domenigoni Valley Reservoir under construction in Southern California should help ensure water supplies for future golf course maintenance and development through the 21st century in this water-starved region.

"Knowing the reservoir is there should mean homeowners and environmentalists will put less pressure on politicians to pass bad legislation affecting irrigation water for golf courses," said

Raymond Davies, head superintendent at Virginia Country Club in Huntington Beach, Calif.

The Metropolitan Water District (MWD) project is massive. First authorized in late 1991, the 250-foot deep reservoir won't be completed until 1999. Created by three dams in the Diamond and Domenigoni valleys south of Hemet, it will be Southern California's largest lake.

The 4.5-mile-long body of water will cover nearly 4,500 acres and hold

Continued on page 50



#### BEST OF THE BEST

The Virginian, a new Tom Fazio design in Bristol, Va., is one reason the architect and his firm are among the 1994 Golf Course News "Best of the Best" award winners. For Best Maintained LPGA course, Builder of the Year and more, see pages 53-57.

## Chemical firms join forces in search of profit

By HAL PHILLIPS

Hoechst-Roussel and NOR-AM Chemical Co. have combined their respective agrochemical activities to create a joint venture. The Scotts Company has acquired Grace-Sierra Horticultural Products Co. from W.R. Grace & Co. DowElanco has already off-loaded a portion of its specialty chemical division to LESCO, as did Zoecon Corp. following the merger of its specialty pesticide unit with Sandoz Agro Inc.

The chemical industry is reacting to the increasingly adverse economic and political environment by streamlining product lines and, ultimately, entire agrochemical divisions. With each passing day, the 1997 deadline for federal reregistration draws closer and chemical companies make more hard choices

Continued on page 69



## Bryant firm 'comprehensive'

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. — Bob Bryant has formed Bryant Golf services, dedicated to providing comprehensive planning, design and consulting services for golf course irrigation systems.

Bryant previously held a position as sales and marketing director for a major supplier of turf irrigation pump stations. Prior to that, as regional manager for a worldwide manufacturer of irrigation equipment, he was involved in a broad range of golf course irrigation projects, both

domestically and internationally.

Bryant holds a bachelor of science degree from

California State University-Long Beach, and served as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps.

He is a member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, National Golf Foundation, and Irrigation Association.



Bob Bryant

## Flatt's Hawk Ridge will fill cry for public golf

LAKE SAINT LOUIS, Mo. — As the city of Lake Saint Louis, located here on the western edge of the Saint Louis metropolitan area, continues to grow, so does its public golf opportunities. Currently under construction is the Hawk Ridge Golf Club, an 18-hole course that can be played from 4,800 to almost 7,000 yards.

Architect Larry Flatt of Flatt Golf Services, Inc. said he has used the site's topography and natural features to achieve a design that optimizes the natural attributes of the land.

"There are no contrived or artificial holes, only holes that gently reveal themselves to the golfer and allow golfers of all skill levels to be challenged both physically and mentally," Flatt said.

According to Flatt, the turfgrasses chosen for Hawk

Ridge will permit excellent playing conditions: "The selection of creeping bentgrass varieties for all teeing areas offer a superior teeing surface, while the mixture of hybrid Bermuda and perennial ryegrasses offers year-round quality and appearance for fairways that will be accentuated by bluegrass roughs, zoysia bunker edging and facing and extensive native grass and wildflower areas," he said.

The Hawk Ridge Golf Club development will include a driving range with 50 bentgrass tees, a learning center, practice putting and chipping greens, and practice sand and grass bunkers.

CRD Campbell, Inc. of St. Louis provided engineering design for a 6.5-acre irrigation lake, storm drainage and erosion control. The general golf course contractor is Kolb Grading, Inc. of St. Charles.

## Reservoir ensures water supplies

Continued from page 1

800,000 acre-feet (260 billion gallons) of the precious liquid. That will double MWD's surface storage capacity.

Obtaining environmental approvals was no easy task. Developers spent \$15.4 million to preserve 3,500 acres of native California grasslands; another \$10.5 million to set aside 2,400 acres for the endangered Stephens kangaroo rat; and preserved 9,000 hillside acres for the threatened gnatcatcher songbird and 16 other plant and animal species.

The goal of all this is to ensure Southern Californians a dependable water supply for up to six months if a major earthquake were to rupture aqueducts bringing water from Northern California and the Colorado River. It could also carry the region through at least two years of drought and the annual hot summer months. It would also replenish local groundwater basins.

MWD services portions of Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Riverside and San Bernadino counties — basically the entire region from Santa Monica to San Diego.

Customers will pay for the project through an average \$2 per month extra charge on their water bills.

"Emphasizing the negatives, like earthquakes and droughts, is what got people to kick in to the program," Davies said. "It's the only way they [MWD] could sell current customers on paying for a project that will benefit future customers."

While the reservoir won't mean more plentiful or cheaper water for golf courses, Davies said, it should diminish superintendents' and developers' fears of having their water rationed.

"Let's face it. If there is trouble with water supplies, golf courses are the first to be cut off. The realization that the reservoir will make bad legislation less likely should be the good news superintendents take out of this," he said.

Architect Robert Muir Graves, designer of many California courses, said anything that alleviates fears of water shortages will help golf development. An 18-hole golf course, in fact, is among the many amenities planned along the reservoir's shore.

**IT'S A WHOLE NEW BALLGAME**

Pumping Systems Inc. (PSI) and Flowtronex International proudly announce a new partnership, **Flowtronex PSI, Ltd.** Combining the strength and resources of the two industry leaders will forever change the landscape of the golf course pump station market.

**BUT THE RULES HAVEN'T CHANGED**

**RULE #1 Give the customer what he wants.**  
"Flowtronex PSI is committed to upholding and improving the standards of excellence defined by our founding companies. We will continue to design, engineer, and build the most advanced, efficient and reliable pump stations in the world. You, as our customer, will continually define our next product or enhancement."

**RULE #2 Take care of what the customer has.**  
With an installation base of over 4000 pump stations, Flowtronex PSI knows the importance of providing prompt, professional service. We have established the most extensive service network in the industry, with factory-authorized service centers located throughout the world. Our state of the art computer monitoring and dispatching system gives our factory technicians instant access to information on your pump station, allowing them to troubleshoot many problems over the phone.

**RULE #3 Never break rules #1 or #2.**  
"Any questions? Give us a call." 1-800-527-0539

**FLOWTRONEX PSI**  
Pumping Systems

Flowtronex PSI Ltd 10717 Harry Hines Blvd. Dallas, Texas, U.S.A. 75220 214-357-1320 FAX 214-357-5861 © 1993 FLOWTRONEX PSI LTD