

Golf industry needs a lobbyist of its own

The golf course industry has a simple but nevertheless enormous problem in our nation's capital. Image and perception are everything in Washington, and golf is sorely lacking on both counts:

- For those of you waiting to see whether the Clinton Administration would follow through with its commitment to reduce pesticide use, you can stop waiting. The legislation was introduced in May and it will be difficult for Congress to stand in opposition.

- The national media increasingly depicts golf courses as flash points in the environmental debate. The *Wall Street Journal* article, "Golf Courses Are Denounced as Health Hazards," run on May 2, is only the most recent example (see my editor-to-editor response at right). As for Paul Harvey... well, don't get me started.

- And despite the monumental growth of public-access golf—and the fact that two-thirds of the nation's courses are open to anyone—the sport is still seen as a pastime for rich, white males who discriminate against women and minorities while erecting their new play-



Hal Phillips,
editor

grounds atop environmentally sensitive lands or ancient burial grounds.

It's time the golf course industry pools its efforts and resources, and the first step should be a golf-only lobbyist in Washington, D.C.

Now, before I go any further, a word should be said about RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment), the specialty chemical trade association. RISE and its executive director, Allen James, have

done a creditable job representing golf's interest. But the job is too big and RISE has plenty to occupy itself outside the golf realm.

Further, sending a lobbyist to Washington is just what the golf industry needs to pull people and organizations together.

For a while there, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) seemed determined to go it alone. But the superintendents have changed their ways, as exhibited by their recent cooperation with the United States Golf Association (USGA) and

Continued on next page

It's time for golfers to pay their fair share

Over the years, the entire golf industry has borne the cost of turfgrass research. The United States Golf Association, private industry, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and state and regional chapters have all gone to great lengths to raise money, then given it away to scientists investigating everything from pesticide fate to low-input turfgrasses.

Now it's time for the end-user—the golfer—to pitch in. Golfers are, after all, the beneficiaries of the lifetime of hard work superintendents and their crews devote to creating perfect playing conditions.

The Arizona green industry took a severe blow this spring when two legislators killed legislation that would have assessed 10 cents per round of golf, with the funds bankrolling research. The entire golf industry reeled, stunned by that debacle. Similar legislation is in effect in various states supporting research in citrus, agriculture and other industries. Superintendents and scientists around the country expected to push for this type of law. That may still happen.

But in the meantime, others are undeterred in their own innovative efforts to raise funds.

Dick Stuntz of Alvarado Country Club in Lawrence, Kan., may have pioneered another way to skin this



Mark Leslie,
managing editor

cat—using mailings to GIN Handicap users to ask for donations for research (see page 13). Stuntz and his green industry colleagues in Kansas should be lauded. They and others must have unique ideas to pass on. We welcome the chance to be a clearinghouse for these ideas, tried or untried. Multiply a \$2 donation by the number of golfers applying for handicaps in America and the potential is truly enormous for the Kansas-type fund-raising alone.

The industry could take the lead from organizers of the Herman Sani Fund in Iowa, which provides scholarships to graduating high school seniors. For 30 years they have raised funds at state tournaments. Sometimes it's voluntary. Other time, a donation is simply added to tournament charges.

There must be myriad solutions to the money problem. One thing is certain: "A worker is worthy of his wages." And scientists from the University of Massachusetts to the University of Arizona continue to solve problems affecting golf courses.

They should get the support they need. And golfers should be among the supporters.

•••

Earthquakes and mass murders grab the page 1 headlines—and rightfully so. Yet disasters some-

Continued on page 44

WALL STREET JOURNAL REPORT OFF THE MARK

(The following letter was dispatched to the *Wall Street Journal* following its publication of the story, "Golf Courses Are Denounced as Health Hazards," on May 2.)

To the editor,

Headline aside, Timothy Noah's story on golf courses and the environment (May 2) was balanced and thoughtfully researched. However, the contention that golf courses apply seven times more pesticides than do farmers and homeowners is yet another example of political hyperbole.

The farming vs. golf debate (and just who applies more pounds of chemical per treated acre) has raged for some time, and citing the now infamous 1991 study from the N.Y. Attorney General's office has become commonplace. Unfortunately for the environmental lobby, it's the only study in recorded history that supports its argument. Further, the study's lead researcher has long disputed the AG's final "edit," which enabled the study's conclusion to match its initial intent—namely, to paint golf courses as environmentally voracious.

Compared to farmers, golf courses do not apply as much pesticide per treated acre—a fact the British environmental movement has accepted for decades. In addition, if a golf course covers 150 acres, less than half the acreage is actually treated, whereas farmers spread pesticides wall to wall. Furthermore, on golf

Continued on next page

Letters

BORDER COLLIES NEEDN'T BE PUREBREDS

To the editor:

In response to your "On The Green" article in the March edition of *Golf Course News*, I have owned a border collie since 1983. His name was Samson. Unfortunately, I had to put him to sleep, because of leukemia, which his mother had also died from. Since his death I was able to find another border collie, named Divits. Border collies were raised to herd sheep, and for the most part they do it instinctively, so doing the same with geese comes as a natural instinct. Both dogs took to chasing geese within a few months after I acquired them. Samson cost me nothing and Divits only cost me \$180.

With Samson, the mention of geese would excite him, and he would start looking everywhere for them. If the geese found their way into a pond, he would follow and chase them, until they would

give up and fly away. When Samson died, I knew I would have to get another border collie, so I went on a search for one. I found a place where they had a border collie with what I think had some husky in him. I was not sure he would take to herding geese as well as Samson had. The first few months he seemed to not even notice the geese, but they sure did notice him. As soon as they saw him, they flew away. After about two months, Divits started chasing animals. By the third month he understood the word geese, and would start looking for them, until he found them. I had another dog, who loves to chase geese.

I guess, what I am trying to tell you is that border collies do love to chase geese, and you do not have to spend \$2,000 for a perfect dog to get rid of geese. I did talk to Richard Marcks, owner of the border collie, Tac, you wrote of in your article, and his dog was trained

exceptionally well. But border collies do tend to obey their masters instinctively, and neither of my dogs has ever gotten into a situation where the geese were going to drown them. His dogs are also trained not to bark, and I have yet to figure out how to keep mine from barking. If you do not have \$2,000 to buy a dog to rid the golf course of geese, I would still recommend a border collie, just one you will have to train yourself.

Thomas F. Dale, CGCS
Radnor Valley Country Club
Villanova, Pa.

CAPTURING THE 'FLAVOR OF THE WADSWORTH WAY'

To the editor:

I would really like to thank you for writing such a wonderful article about Wadsworth, its legacy and the people who have had the opportunity to be associated with this outstanding firm. Not only

was your article accurate, but was extremely well written and I think that it encompassed the flavor of the Wadsworth Way.

I am particularly grateful that you mentioned that Mr. Wadsworth and the Wadsworths' team-work being on a spiritual level. Because, you know when all is said and done the most important things are relationships between people, not money or power or status or recognition and I truly think the most successful people in the world are the ones that are the most humble.

Mr. Wadsworth has been able to demonstrate that when you place the clients' needs above yours and also above all else, you will succeed.

Your article portrays this very nicely. All in all, it was a wonderful article.

Craig Schreiner
ASGCA, ASLA
Kansas City, Mo.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

Publisher

Charles E. von Brecht

Editorial Director

Brook Taliaferro

Editor

Hal Phillips

Managing Editor

Mark A. Leslie

Associate Editor

Peter Blais

Contributing Editors

Terry Buchen, CGCS, MG
Vern Putney

Editorial Advisory Board

Raymond Davies, CGCS
Virginia Country Club
Kevin Downing, CGCS
Willoughby Golf Club
Tim Hiers, CGCS
Collier's Reserve
Dr. Michael Hurdzan
Hurdzan Design Group
Mary P. Knaggs, CGCS
Hazelton National GC
Roger Maxwell
Management Consultant
James McLoughlin
The McLoughlin Group
Kevin Ross, CGCS
Falmouth Country Club
Brent Wadsworth
Wadsworth Construction

Production Manager

Joline V. Gilman

Circulation Manager

Brenda Boothby

Editorial Office

Golf Course News
PO Box 997
38 Lafayette Street
Yarmouth, ME 04096
207-846-0600; Fax: 207-846-0657

Advertising Office

National Sales:
Charles E. von Brecht
227 Second Avenue North
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
813-898-7077; Fax: 813-825-0923

Western Sales:

Robert Sanner
Western Territory Manager
2141 Vermont
Lawrence, KS 66046
913-842-3969; Fax: 913-842-4304

Marketplace Sales:

Mary Anderson
813-898-7077; Fax: 813-825-0923

Golf Course Expo Sales

Michael Lafaso
207-846-0600; Fax: 207-846-0657

Subscription Information

Golf Course News
P.O. Box 3047
Langhorne, PA 19047
215-788-7112

United Publications, Inc.

Publishers of specialized business and consumer magazines.
Chairman
Theodore E. Gordon
President
J.G. Taliaferro, Jr.



Copyright © 1994 by United Publications, Inc. All rights reserved and reproduction, in whole or in part, without written permission from the publisher is expressly prohibited.

June

8 — Lofts Field Day in Wilmington, Ohio. Contact David Goodwin at 800-328-1127.

10 — Lofts Field Day in Beltsville, Md. Contact John Patton at 800-732-3322.

July

4-8 — World Scientific Congress of Golf in St. Andrews, Scotland. Contact World Scientific Congress of Golf in the UK at 0334-75560.

24-26 — Texas Turfgrass Seminar in Arlington. Contact 806-354-8447.

31-Aug. 2 — Georgia GCSA Summer Conference at Callaway Gardens Resort. Contact Karen White at 706-769-4076.

August

16 — Wisconsin Turfgrass Field Day in Madison. Contact Dr. Frank Rossi at 608-262-1490.

24 — Turf Talk '94 in Chandler, Ariz. Contact Garden West at 602-233-2966.

September

20-22 — Virginia Tech Turf and Landscape Field Days in Blacksburg, Va. Contact J.R. Hall III at 703-231-9736

October

29-Nov. 2 — Georgia GCSA Annual Meeting in Savannah. Contact Karen White at 706-769-4076.

November

6-9 — 15th Annual International Irrigation Exposition and Technical Conference in Atlanta. Contact 703-573-3551.

11-12 — Golf Course Expo in Orlando, Fla. Industry trade show and conference for superintendents, managers, owners and developers of public-access golf courses. Contact the Golf Course News Conference Group at 207-846-0600.

18-20 — National Golf Foundation Golf Summit '94 in Phoenix. Contact 407-744-6006.

Leslie commentary

Continued from page 10

times have less impact on our society than the stories behind the less-weighty headlines. Along this vein, any coverage of the Black Pages was buried in the back of your daily newspaper a month or so ago.

If the May issue's revelation on Potty Parity isn't enough to cause a hot breeze of premonition, the Black Pages may lurk around the corner in your future.

First remember, it was not long ago that the Shoal Creek mud was slung. The private country club in Birmingham, Ala., had no African-American members. African-Americans, whites — the whole world, for that matter — damned the club from here to Sunday for its discrimination.

Today, those same African-Americans are stepping into the old shoes of Those Dreaded Discriminators. The Black Pages is their answer to the Yellow Pages of your friendly telephone company. While the Yellow Pages list all businesses, the Black Pages list only those owned by African-Americans.

Is this discrimination against white, yellow and red people? What if you are a (ugh-h) "mixed breed"?

Would Dr. Martin Luther King have joined Shoal Creek? I don't know. But I feel he would be very upset by the Black Pages. He wanted all people to transcend physical superficialities. This sort of thing only puts up more walls of division.

And if we don't need it in golf, we certainly don't need it in society in general. Indeed, the American Declaration of Inde-

Continued on next page

Golf Course Marketplace

To reserve space in this section, call Mary Anderson, 813-898-7077



Nationwide delivery • Install in less than two hours

Golf Course Bridges!

1-800-328-2047

Thousands in use. Built to last. Sponsor Member



Route 5, Box 178, Alexandria, MN 56308 • (612) 852-7500



CIRCLE #150

ENGRAVED YARDAGE LABELS

• Bright colors • Fasteners included • Orders quickly shipped UPS **Free Samples!**

NEW ITEM... "THE SOLUTION"

For Areas Without Sprinklers. Put Your Message Plus Yardage Anywhere.



THE YARD EDGE GOLF CO. P.O. Box 13159
1-800-284-YARD (9273) Wichita, KS 67213

CIRCLE #152



PAVELEC BROTHERS GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.

✓ New Construction
✓ Renovation
✓ Field Drainage Systems

TONY PAVELEC (201) 667-1643
EMIL PAVELEC (201) 939-6182

98 Evergreen Ave. Nutley, NJ 07110

CIRCLE #154


TRIMS gives you more for your money!

TRIMS gives you more benefits and offers you more features than all other grounds management software packages combined! Don't settle for an imitation.

You've always wanted TRIMS! Why Wait? Call for your free Demo Disk:

TRIMS Software International
6220 East Thomas Road, Suite 303
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
(800) 608-7467

Indicate 5¼" or 3½" diskette



CIRCLE #156

Inside Info

Get the jump on your competition by subscribing to the **Golf Course News Development Letter**

This twice-monthly newsletter...

- tracks golf course projects under consideration across the nation
- is packed with news items detailing where and when projects will be undertaken, and by whom
- is just \$195 for a year's subscription

For more information contact Editor Peter Blais at 207/846-0600



Furness Golf Construction, Inc.

TIM FURNESS, PRESIDENT

Turn-Key Golf Course Construction
Statewide • Nationwide • Worldwide

QUALITY IS OUR MAIN CONCERN

(616) 547-6133

1101 Bridge Street, Charlevoix, Michigan 49720

CIRCLE #151



QUAIL VALLEY FARM, INC.

"Growers of Quality Turf Grasses"

- Meyer Z-52 Zoysia
- El Toro Zoysia
- Tall Fescue
- Sprigs
- Tifway II
- Tifdwarf
- Big Rolls
- Midlawn (the new transition zone bermuda grass!)

(800) 666-0007

P.O. Box 5508
Little Rock, AR 72215
(501) 280-0763



CIRCLE #153

ACCU-GAGE™

NEW! **LIFETIME WARRANTY** ON BARS WITH **DURA-COAT™**

ACCUGAGE is a precision tool for making highly accurate height-of-cut measurements on greens mowers or other precision mowers.

AVAILABLE IN 15", 18", and 24" bars.

Our LIGHTWEIGHT and RIGID aluminum bars are now treated with DURA-COAT. DURA-COAT wears better than tool steel and enables us to offer this unique LIFETIME WARRANTY.

To order call 1-800-253-2112 or fax 1-313-429-3985.

PRECISION TOOL PRODUCTS CO.
7836 Bethel Church Rd. • Saline, MI 48176

CIRCLE #155

Keep Your Divot Seed Mixture Where It Is Used ...

... in Divot Seed & Soil tee buckets next to the tee markers. Available in Cedar or Redwood slats and with companion Trash'M debris buckets.

Ask Your Golf Course Distributor for **INNOVATIVE MAINTENANCE PRODUCTS**

From *Master of the Links*


P.O. Box 283, Lockport, IL 60441-0283
(815) 723-4444 • Fax (815) 723-4485




CIRCLE #157

YORK BRIDGE CONCEPTS

A Division of Pelican Marine Enterprises, Inc.



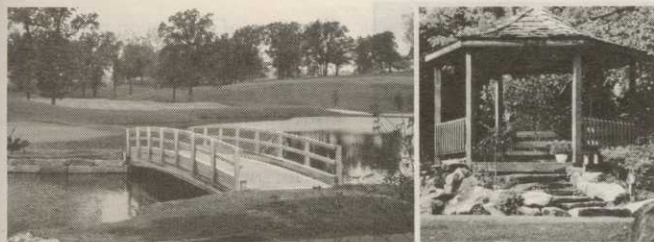
- On-Site Construction
- Consulting and Design Capabilities
- Certified Engineered Drawings Available

1426 W. Busch Blvd. • Tampa, FL 33612 • (800) 226-4178

CIRCLE #158

Golf Course Marketplace

To reserve space in this section, call Mary Anderson, 813-898-7077



Laminated Wood Pedestrian & Vehicular BRIDGES & SHELTERS

Order Direct From The Leading Manufacturer in U.S.

- Complete Prefabricated Packages
- Ready for Fast Erection
- Direct Distribution Throughout the U.S.
- Custom Design & Engineering



CALL 1-800-777-UNIT

Morrisville, NC 27560
Tel. 919/467-6151
FAX 919/469-2536

CIRCLE #159



Flymo

- New GCT 20
- Patented & Proven Safety Cutting System
- New JLO Engine with One Year Warranty



PRECISION SMALL ENGINE CO.

FOR MORE DETAILS CALL 1-800-345-1960 or 305-974-1960

CIRCLE #161



Cut Cups The Same Depth Everytime

This cup auger cleans out the last part of each hole. An adjustable ring gives you the exact depth you want.

Call for our Brochure - 800-456-4351



TURF PRODUCTS P.O. Box 164 • Miltona, MN 56354

CIRCLE #163

Keep That Edge



pinhigh reel sharpening compound

Contact Your Local Distributor or Call Us Toll Free 1 (800) 422-4748

CIRCLE #165

Formost Construction Co.

Serving the nation for over 30 years.

IRRIGATION SPECIALISTS

"Doing One Thing Well"

P.O. BOX 559
TEMECULA, CALIFORNIA 92593

(909) 698-7270

FAX (909) 698-6170

STATE LIC. #267960

CIRCLE #167

THE ILD^{LP} LIGHTNING PROTECTION SYSTEM

patent #5,291,208 and other patents pending by RABUN LABS, INC.

Automatically detects the presence of lightning BEFORE it gets close enough to do the damage, gives an alarm, switches power sources, AND/OR automatically disconnects power, phones and coax lines until the storm is out of the area, then automatically reconnects.

EASY INSTALLATION!

Models available for protection of irrigation management control & data distribution equipment, pump motors and field satellite controllers, computers & data processing equipment, club house alerting system, and custom design.

Coming soon -- quiet alert for your golf cart!
4407 Vineland Rd., Ste. D-18 • Orlando, FL 32811
407-246-1355 • FAX 407-246-1358

1-800-788-1824

A cost effective, intelligent solution to equipment damage due to lightning.

CIRCLE #160

Exceptional Software...

SCMS

Superintendents Compliance / Management System

"The Choice of Today's Grounds Managers"

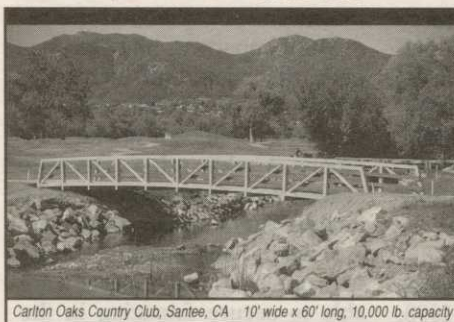
From Equipment Tracking and Employee Training... To Compliance Reports and Chemical Records

Free Demonstration Diskettes

Call Toll Free (800) 472 8882

Environmental Compliance Systems, Incorporated
21 North Avenue Lake Forest IL 60045

CIRCLE #162



Carlton Oaks Country Club, Santee, CA 10' wide x 60' long, 10,000 lb. capacity

EXCEL

BRIDGE MANUFACTURING CO.

Golf Course Bridges are our specialty! We fabricate easy-to-install, pre-engineered spans and deliver them anywhere in the USA. Call today for a free consultation.

Our classic design, with a look that stands the test of time.

800/548-0054 (Outside CA)

12001 SHOEMAKER AVENUE, SANTE FE SPRINGS, CA 90670
310/944-0701 • FAX 310/944-4025

CIRCLE #164

"I'm Sold On Courtesy Golf Cup Protectors."

"Every once in a while, we superintendents discover a new edge in maintenance control. The Courtesy Golf Cup Protectors are an inexpensive and smart idea. Each time players reach into a hole, they receive positive reinforcement on course etiquette. Messages like Replace and Fill Divots, Obey Cart Signs and four others are repeated from hole to hole. We know the message sinks in because we see results: better etiquette and less maintenance. The Courtesy Golf Cup Protectors are a real asset to our maintenance program." Rick McGuinness, Woodmere CC, NY.



18 disks per pack - 1 to 100 packs \$11.50 each plus shipping. Personalized Courtesy Disks also available, extra charge. 1746 NW 84th Dr., Coral Springs FL 33071, 305-753-0464

CIRCLE #166

TerraBond



GEOTEXTILES FOR SOIL SEPARATION AND FILTRATION

Economical soil filtration and separation for all landscaping and turf applications. Strong, durable, puncture resistant, pliable and permeable, easy to install. Proven performance nationwide.

CONTECH Geosynthetic Products for the Turf Industry

For free information, call toll-free: 1-800-338-1122. (In Ohio, 1-800-752-8899).

CIRCLE #168

ADVERTISERS' INDEX

RS#	Advertiser	Page
133	A.S.I.	40
111	Allen Power Equipment	14
138	The Andersons	42
143	Applied Biochemists	19
103	Aquatrols	3
113	Becker Underwood	16
129	Brouwer Turf Equip.	34
101	Cedar Chemical	2
106	Ciba	7
168	Contech Construction Products	45
150	Continental Bridge	44
162	Environmental Compliance Systems	45
142	Environmental Products	14
164	Excel Bridge Mfg.	45
116	Fore Par	18
167	Formost Construction Co.	45
151	Furness Golf Construction	44
123	Golf Course Expo	26
110	Highland Bentgrass Commission	14
125	Hoechst-Roussel	31
166	Hole Advertising	45
109	ISK Biotech	12
140	Jacobsen	48
165	Jesco Products/Pinhigh	45
107	John Deere	8-9
144-147	Kalo	47
135	Kirby Markers	40
157	Master of the Links	44
131	Miles Inc.	36
105	Milorganite	6
163	Milona Turf Products	45
114	Otterbine/Barebo	17
127	Page Com	32
126	Partac	32
154	Pavelec Bros. Construction	44
137	Pickseed West	41
117	Precision Small Engine	19
161	Precision Small Engine	45
120	Precision Small Engine	20
155	Precision Tool Prod. Co.	44
153	Quail Valley Turf Farm	44
160	Rabun Labs	45
128	Regal Chemical	34
115	Regal Chemical	17
132	Ryan, Ransomes America Corp.	38-39
122	Seed Research of Oregon	24-25
112	Smithco	15
119	Southern Corp. Promo.	20
136	Spectrum Products	40
130	Standard Golf	35
139	Tee & Green Sod	46
121	Tee-2-Green	22
104	Toro Comm'l. Prod. Div.	4-5
124	Toro Comm'l. Prod. Div.	28-29
156	Trims International Software	44
102	Turf Merchants	3
118	Turf-Seed	21
134	Turflite, Inc.	40
159	Unit Structures	45
108	Verti-Drain/Emrex	11
152	Yard Edge	44
158	York Bridge Concepts	44

Leslie commentary

Continued from previous page

pendence and the Judeo-Christian religion calls us to be "one people."

Henry Louis Gates, chairman of black studies at Harvard University, agrees. Do you?

...

When Dr. Noel Jackson spoke to Maine superintendents on Pythium damage, he said when Pythium hits, it leaves bentgrass but kills poa annua. "How can we get it?" came the hue and cry.

Of course, they didn't want to know; but, if you water abundantly you create conditions for Pythium, whose 35 species are some of the fastest-growing fungi in turf.

...

San Francisco Golf Club's Maynard Garrison, a senior citizen, told American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) members: "We have few opportunities for exercise. Please take the lead to get rid of golf buggies. They are the bane of the existence of all golfers."

...

From Dr. James Watson, retired Toro executive, speaking to the ASGCA: "By the year 2050 the greatest export from the U.S. to Mexico will be water — not oil, minerals, or anything else."

...

New American Society of Golf Course Architects President Don Knott told members: "Stanley Thomson was absolutely correct when he commented that designing golf courses without having studied the links of the British Isles is akin to a divinity student who has never studied the Bible."