

Passing grade on TGIF report card

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on some things we've wanted to but haven't done yet."

First among the new services, he said, will be a printed index — by author and subject — of all the information in TGIF. Cookingham hopes to publish it every six months, beginning at mid-year.

A major improvement was the addition in December of Internet, which Cookingham called "the mother of all computer networks."

An international network which

grew from origins within the U.S. Defense Department, Internet now has life of its own in defense, research and development, universities, national research laboratories and foreign governments.

"The benefit will show quickly for universities and overseas users [of TGIF] — the universities because most of them have access to Internet through their campus networks; the international users for whom telephones tend to be problematic sometimes because of

good and bad connections," Cookingham said.

"For the average superintendent, Internet provides another way to get in [access TGIF]. Long-distance carriers provide access to Internet. Most public network systems, like Progeny and America On-line, have indicated they intend to provide a gateway to Internet for those services."

Students at TGIF-member universities now can access TGIF without paying for log-on time or telephone connections.

Danny Quast, superintendent at Medinah (Ill.) Country Club and

chairman of TGIF's external advisory council, said: "We will serve a lot of purposes over the years, but the most important could be making it available to turfgrass students."

Quast sees "endless possibilities" to the uses for TGIF. "The flexibility is there," he said. "MCI thinks it's worth billions for the 'super-highway' and Internet is it right now. I'd like to see it expand so manufacturers could contribute information on equipment but not advertising."

"It can also be personalized for organizations like Responsible

Industry for a Sound Environment and Golf Course Superintendents Association of America."

In fact, a proposal on TGIF went before GCSAA board in Dallas.

"Things are falling into place very nicely. I'm enthused about it," Quast said.

"I think anybody in society should see how important communications is to any business. This is in place and represents big investment by the USGA, and it's there for everybody. That's why I've worked so hard on it. I think it will grow and grow and be a useful service. We just have to iron out the lumps."

Coffman book A must-read

By MARK LESLIE

CHICAGO — Dr. Michael S. Coffman, who educated a few with his first book, *Environmentalism!*, should reach a nationwide audience with *Saviors of the Earth?*

Released in January by Northfield Publishing of Chicago, *Saviors of the Earth?* strikes a powerful chord against extremist views that have been so often repeated that much of America believes them:

The apocalyptic cry has rallied environmentalist forces on such issues of acid rain, global warming, destruction of the ozone.

Coffman says that while the environmental movement calls for increased public support, million-dollar programs, and tighter government regulations, its real goals are not solutions but total restructuring of democracy to fall in line with the environmentalist doctrine. This doctrine is based on a biocentric world view where nature-is-god and human rights are made subservient to Mother Earth.

From the poorly informed Vice President Al Gore to ultra-environmentalists like Earth First! who proclaim humans are a cancer, Coffman strips off the veneer and lays the lies naked.

It's shocking what the government can accomplish when just a handful of these folks are put into high public office. Like Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt and Assistant Secretary George Frampton, who are, respectively, former chairman of the League of Conservation Voters and past president of the Wilderness Society.

There is much, much more in this fascinating "must reading" for those in the golf industry.

Coffman, who taught forest ecology and forest community dynamics for 10 years at Michigan Technological University, is now president of Environmental Perspectives, Inc., in Bangor, Maine, and speaks his message around the country.

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Saviors of the Earth?, \$11.99, 336 pages, paperback, available from Northfield Publishing, 215 W. Locust St., Chicago, Ill. 60610; telephone 800-678-8001.



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