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USGA adds to research kitty: \$1.5m

By MARK LESLIE

FAR HILLS, N.J. — Admired on taking its environmental research to the next level, both scientifically and practically, the United States Golf Association (USGA) is funding another \$1.5 million for research over the next three years.

Having spent \$3.2 million on environmental research projects from 1991-93, USGA officials have decided to perform further studies on some projects and add a new practical angle, investigating and reporting Best Management Practices for golf course superintendents to use in everyday work.

Saying the USGA and entire golf industry have an obligation to minimize environmental impacts of course maintenance, Green Section Research Director Dr. Michael Kenna said: "In instances where a superintendent has used proper fertilization, mowing heights, irrigation and all other possible practices but still has a disease, insect or weed infestation, what techniques can he follow that

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BIG DOINGS IN BIG SKY COUNTRY

A silo behind the 5th green sits as a sentinel to its past, while a 568-yard monster looms foreboding in its future. But for now, Bridger Creek Golf Course in Bozeman, Mont., stands as a public nine-hole facility that makes proud its operator — Great Northern Golf Co. See story page 36.

Jones II: 'I think public golf is the future'

Architect to keynote day two at Expo

By MARK LESLIE

ORLANDO — World-renowned golf course architect Robert Trent Jones Jr. will join Arnold Palmer as a keynote speaker at Golf Course Expo, the nation's premier event for public-access golf courses planned here, Nov. 11-12.

Jones, of the legendary golf course design family, will talk at 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 12, and sign his book, "Golf by Design: How To Lower Your Score by Reading the Features of a Golf Course," released this year by Little, Brown.

Golf Course Expo, sponsored by *Golf Course News*, is the only trade show and education conference

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Robert Trent Jones Jr.

MORE EXPO NEWS

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WINTER PREP

Combating snow mold, pink and gray, is a major problem faced by Northern superintendents as they prepare for the winter months ahead. For a special report, see page 22.

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Suichang bringing endophyte strains to bents and blues

By PETER BLAIS

A Jacklin Seed Co. researcher is busily trying to develop endophyte-containing strains of Kentucky bluegrass and bentgrass, breakthroughs that could dramatically reduce the need for herbicide and fun-

gicide treatments.

Endophytic fungi are common in tall fescue, perennial ryegrass and fine fescues. Endophytes make turf more resistant to insects and such diseases as dollar spot and summer patch, according to Suichang Sun, who recently received a master's degree in turfgrass breeding from Rutgers University.

Endophytes either occur naturally or can be artificially inoculated. But they have not been found or successfully inoculated into two of the most widely used cool-season turfgrasses,

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Grant Spaeth

Spaeth, Lurie look to form international reservation network

By MARK LESLIE

SAN FRANCISCO — The Ticketron of Golf. That's what former U.S. Golf Association

President C. Grant Spaeth and former San Francisco Giants owner Bob Lurie believe they have created, along with Jay S. Troutman, founder and president of Aptech Computer Systems in Pittsburgh.

PAR Business Systems, led by Spaeth and financially backed by Lurie, has bought Aptech's TeeTime Network division and formed PAR Golf Systems, Inc. The alliance combines PAR Business Systems' proprietary golf course management software and TeeTime Network's tee-time reservation software.

"The Aptech acquisition provides the potential of a reservation service comparable to that which we now find in hotels, theaters and rental cars," said Spaeth. "If you have a demand for golf, and a couple of thousand

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