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Dedman, Family Dye to keynote Expo

Nation's only public-access conference and show returns to Orlando, Nov. 9-10

By HAL PHILLIPS

ORLANDO, Fla. — Ground-breaking design and innovative management practices will set the tone when The Family Dye and Robert Dedman headline this year's edition of Golf Course Expo, scheduled for Nov. 9 and 10 here at the Orange County Convention Center.

While Pete and Alice Dye have played a major role in rewriting the book on modern golf course architecture, Dedman — founder and chairman of Club Corporation International — has been no less a pioneer in the world of

course management.

The Dyes — Pete, Alice and sons Perry and P.B. — will share the dais at 9 a.m. on Nov. 9, keynoting Day I of the second annual Golf Course Expo, the only national trade show and conference targeting superintendents, managers and developers of public-access facilities. Dedman will keynote Day II, also at 9 a.m.

"We're thrilled to have them aboard," said Charles von Brecht, publisher of *Golf Course News*, which sponsors Golf Course Expo. "Robert Dedman has simply changed the way golf courses are operated,



ClubCorp. Chairman Robert Dedman will keynote Day II.

and the Dyes are one of the most famous families in the game, each of them meeting the very different, specific needs of public-access golf."

Dedman, who founded Franklin Federal Bancorp

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New strains stand out at fescue trials

By MARK LESLIE

BELTSVILLE, Md. — Oh, how the mighty have fallen in the ever more popular world of fine fescues. With the release of the first-year findings in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's new National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP), only two of the previous four-year trial's top 10 fine fescues are in this top 10 and only three are even in the top 30 after the first year of this study.

And this with 35 fewer varieties being tested.

Turfgrass breeders have made major strides, improving color, heat and drought-tolerance and resistance to foliar diseases, particularly

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SOMEWHERE IKE IS SMILING

Workers pour a new root-zone mix for the famed Eisenhower Green, located in America's most visible front yard. To celebrate the USGA centennial, President Clinton wanted the "First Putting Surface" refurbished and architect Robert Trent Jones II obliged. See page 3 for story.

Cities turn to non-profit management groups

By PETER BLAIS

Seattle recently turned over operation of its three public courses to a newly formed, non-profit corporation, a move being considered in a growing number of U.S. cities.

"It's gaining favor throughout the country because it works," said Lynnie Cooke, executive director of the Baltimore Municipal Golf Corp., which is frequently cited as a model operation by non-profit advocates.

Since assuming control in 1985, BMGC has made \$4.5 million in improvements to the city's five golf facilities and is planning a sixth course, all at no expense to

taxpayers. Annual rounds increased from 195,000 in 1984 to 358,000 in 1990. Green fees, reportedly the lowest among major municipal layouts in the Mid-Atlantic, have remained at \$10.50 since 1987. Two of its courses, Pine Ridge and Mt. Pleasant, are generally considered among the top 10 public layouts in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Virginia.

In light of Baltimore's success, Indianapolis is set to hand over the reins to three of its public courses to a non-profit organization, Cooke said. Newark, N.J., officials visited Cooke in early July and are seriously considering establishing a

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