

GOLF COURSE NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

A UNITED PUBLICATION
VOLUME 7, NUMBER 7
JULY 1995 • \$4.50

INSIDE

Course of Study

Siena College and Schuyler Meadows GC will cooperate on long-term environmental studies 3

Off the Record

Having decided to rethink its greens construction specs, the USGA solicits research proposals 13

15,000 and Counting!

GCN and the NGF have identified the nation's 15,000th course, which opened for play this spring 46

Top dressing breakthrough: Crumb rubber

By MARK LESLIE

WILMINGTON, Ohio — After five years of extensive study, Michigan State University (MSU) researchers are recommending crumb rubber, or finely chopped automobile tires, as a top dressing for high-traffic areas on golf courses and athletic fields.

"As much as we incorporated it into the soil profile, we never saw the panacea that people wanted. But we did find great results when top dressing it onto established turf," Dr. John "Trey" Rogers III of MSU said of crumb rubber.

"When we incorporated it, the rub-
Continued on page 25



HONORING OLD & NEW

The world of public-access golf marks two momentous occasions in July. New York City's Van Cortlandt Park Golf Course (above), the nation's oldest public-access course, celebrates its centenary this month. For the story on its week-long commemoration, see page 35. Meanwhile, the nation's 15,000th facility has opened for play: Poolsbrook Golf Course, a family-run daily-fee in Kirkville, N.Y. See story page 46.

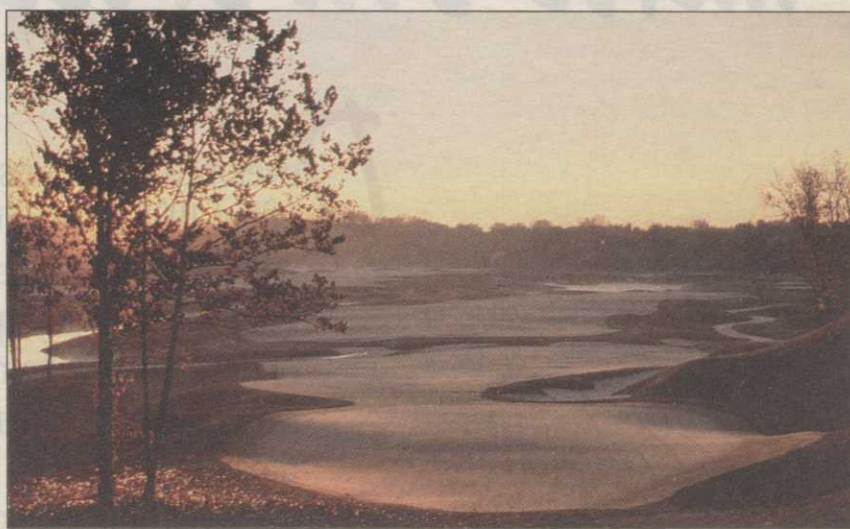
Claims drain funding for UST clean-up

By PETER BLAIS

Nebraska recently delayed the clean-up of some 6,000 contaminated underground storage tank (UST) sites because its state-controlled cleanup fund is almost out of money. This spring, cash-strapped New Mexico diverted half the \$14 million in its UST clean-up and indemnification fund to other uses. Michigan declared its fund insolvent in April and went out of business for good June 29, forcing tank owners there to seek private insurance to meet the federal mandate of \$1 million in liability coverage per incident.

State UST funds in Florida and Illinois could soon run out money, according to Dennis Rounds,

Continued on page 37



NOT A CORNSTALK IN SIGHT

Cooks Creek, a collaborative effort between Dr. Michael Hurdzan and touring pro John Cook, used to be a cornfield. Now it's Ashville, Ohio's newest attraction. For story, see page 27.

Taxing setback in Florida court

By HAL PHILLIPS

NAPLES, Fla. — A precedent-setting battle is brewing here in South Florida where 12 Collier County golf clubs have challenged their property assessments in court.

For the moment, golf industry fortunes are flagging. Judge Ted Brousseau has upheld the municipal appraisal of Quail Creek Country Club in Naples, which argued the assessment was more than \$3 million too high.

However, the remaining 11 clubs have yet to have
Continued on page 43



Peter Whurr, Ransomes America

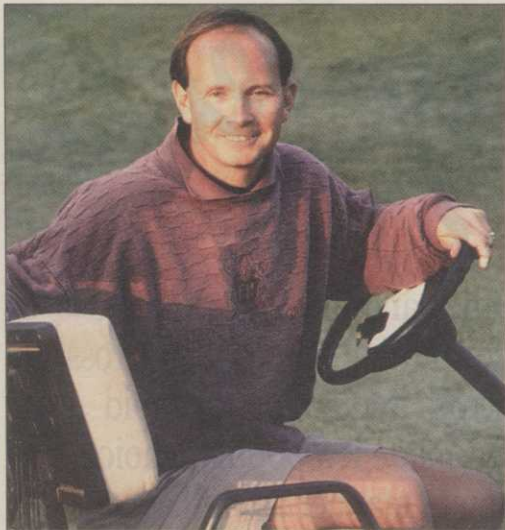
Ever-shrinking dollar posing problems for manufacturers

By HAL PHILLIPS

America's ongoing currency woes are beginning to affect golf course industry firms, some of which have discarded product lines dependent on overseas manufacturing agreements. Others continue to monitor the situation closely, recognizing the possibility that plunging dollar values may render those agreements unfeasible in the long-term.

"Anybody importing from Japan any commodity is impacted by the currency situation," said John Brozek, director of industrial Product Sales at Daihatsu, which will cease production of its Hijet utility vehicle in December.

Like Daihatsu, Mitsubishi manufacturers its Mighty Mit utility vehicle in Japan, but that will soon end, confirmed Bob Hertel, industrial vehicle man-
Continued on page 41



FOCUS ON FRANKLIN HILLS' TOM GRAY, PAGE 16

COURSE MAINTENANCE

GCSAA adopts Audubon in-school program 13
Scientists rave about new breed of bents 20,21
Q&A with R&A Secretary Michael Bonallack 24

COURSE DEVELOPMENT

Q&A with Ohio-area architect Barry Serafin 27
Pearson leaves Golden Bear for solo career 28
ASGCA welcomes three new fellows 31

COURSE MANAGEMENT

Ocean Course sale hits yet another snag 3
Resorts recruit incentive-travel customers 35
Brassie moves headquarters to Florida 36

SUPPLIER BUSINESS

EPA promises to streamline label review 39
New digs for York Bridge Concepts 40
What's new in the marketplace? 42