

BRIEFS



NEW ENGLANDERS UNITE

The New Hampshire Golf Course Superintendents Association, the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England have decided to join forces in hosting the Massachusetts Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show. This new conference will be held in January, in Boston, Mass., and will combine the New Hampshire Turf Conference and the University of Massachusetts Turf Conference into one large show.

JARRELL HONORED IN FLORIDA

TAMPA, Fla. — Palm Beach National Golf and Country Club superintendent Mark Jarrell was presented the Wreath of Grass Award for outstanding contributions to the turfgrass industry at the Florida Turfgrass Association's (FTGA) conference and trade show at Tampa Convention Center. New FTGA President Gerry Millholen oversaw the event at which members presented \$70,000 to the FTGA for turfgrass development. Research donations in the state in 1995 have exceeded \$100,000.



Mark Jarrell

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RUTGERS HONORING ALUMNI

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. — The Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School will hold its sixth annual Alumni Awards Banquet on Nov. 4, 1995, at the Douglass College Center on the Rutgers University campus.

The banquet will feature certificate awards and scholarship presentations by the Rutgers Professional Turf Management School, the Rutgers Turfgrass Alumni Association, and the New Jersey Turfgrass Association and Turfgrass Foundation. For more information, contact Missy Marciante by telephone at 908-932-9271, or by fax at 908-932-1187.

OTF SHOW PLANNED

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Drs. Jim Beard and Tom Morgan will keynote the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation (OTF) Regional Conference and Show at the Greater Columbus Convention and Visitors Center here, Dec. 5-8. A retired



Texas A&M professor currently with the International Sports Turf Institute, Beard will speak on turfgrass benefits and environmental issues.

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FRIENDLY FIRE

Competition in Columbus brings out the best in supers



Photo courtesy of Michael Hurdzan

The 11th hole at Ohio State University's nationally ranked Scarlet Course.

6:15 a.m.: At Ohio State University golfers are lining up to tee off at 7. A few miles away at Double Eagle, the course will host six foursomes today.



By MARK LESLIE

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Truth be told, you need only turn around and you can play another great golf course in this city. Five of the country's top 100 courses, according to one poll, operate here. So how do the superintendents — and their clubs — respond in the face of such stiff competition? Thrive or die?

"I don't want to sound boastful, but I don't think you can go anywhere in the country and find golf courses as well conditioned as we have right here," said Mark Yoder, superintendent at private Scioto Country Club in the near west end of Columbus. "Frequently, guests come in and say, '[They're playing] The Golf Club yesterday, Scioto today, Muirfield tomorrow, then Double Eagle...'"

Indeed, Golf Magazine's latest top 100 poll, released in October, ranks Muirfield Village Golf Club in nearby Dublin 19th in the United States, The Golf Club in neighboring New Albany 20th, Scioto 29th, Double Eagle in the suburb of Galena 41st and the public-access Ohio State University Scarlet Course a few blocks from Scioto 81st. The five superintendents are comrades-yet-competitors-in-arms.

"We're all proud to be on those ['best-of'] lists," said Terry Buchen, superintendent at the ultra-exclusive, ultra-condi

Continued on next page

Muirfield Village Golf Club

Type: Private
 Rated by *Golf Magazine*: 19th U.S.; 32nd world
 Rated by *Golf Digest*: 16th in the nation
 Maintenance staff: 9 full-time; 16 seasonal
 No. of Holes: 18
 Members: 200 local; 200 national
 Rounds per year: 20,000
 Green fee: \$125
 Stimpmeter readings: Not applied
 Height of cut in inches: greens 1/8; tees 1/4; fairways 7/16
 No. of tee markers: 3
 No. of sand bunkers: 70
 Metal spikes: Banned



Super Mike McBride

Architects: J. Nicklaus & Desmond Muirhead

The Golf Club

Type: Private
 Rated by *Golf Magazine*: 20th U.S.; 34th world
 Rated by *Golf Digest*: 28th in the nation
 Maintenance staff: 7 full-time; 17 seasonal
 No. of Holes: 18
 Members: 150 (+75 non-residents)
 Rounds per year: under 10,000
 Green fee: \$40
 Stimpmeter readings: 9.4
 Height of cut: 9/64-5/32 greens; 3/8 tees; 7/16 fairways
 No. of tee markers: 4
 No. of sand bunkers: 52
 Metal spikes: Mandatory



Super Keith Kresina

for members
 Architect: Pete Dye

Scioto Country Club

Type: Private
 Rated by *Golf Magazine*: 29th U.S.; 48th in world
 Rated by *Golf Digest*: 36 in nation
 Maintenance staff: 6 full-time; 25-30 seasonal
 No. of Holes: 18
 Members: 325
 Rounds per year: 20,000
 Green fee: \$60
 Stimpmeter readings: 10
 Height of cut: greens 1/8 greens; 3/8 tees; fairways 7/16
 No. of tee markers: 4
 No. of sand bunkers: 78



Super Mark Yoder

Metal spikes: Banned
 Architect: Donald Ross

Double Eagle Club

Type: Private
 Rated by *Golf Magazine*: 41st U.S.; 74th world
 Rated by *Golf Digest*: Too young to be ranked
 Maintenance staff: 11 full-time; 14 seasonal
 No. of Holes: 18
 Members: 47 local; 126 national
 Rounds per year: 5,000
 Green fee: N/A
 Stimpmeter readings: 11
 Height of cut: 1/8 greens; 5/32 tees; 3/8 fairways
 No. of tee markers: 4
 No. of sand bunkers: 83
 Metal spikes: Not banned (free rubber spikes)



Super Terry Buchen

Architects: Jay Morrish & Tom Weiskopf

Ohio State University Scarlet Course

Type: Public
 Rated by *Golf Magazine*: 81st in U.S.
 Rated by *Golf Digest*: N/A
 Maintenance staff: 5 full-time; 4 seasonal
 No. of Holes: 36
 Members: 1,500
 Rounds per year: 100,000 (50,000 per course)
 Green fee: \$10 students; maximum \$25
 Stimpmeter readings: 8-1/2
 Height of cut: greens 3/16; tees and fairways 1/2
 No. of tee markers: 3
 No. of sand bunkers: 105
 Metal spikes: Not barred



Super Gary Rasor

Architect: Alister Mackenzie

HEAD OF THE CLASS

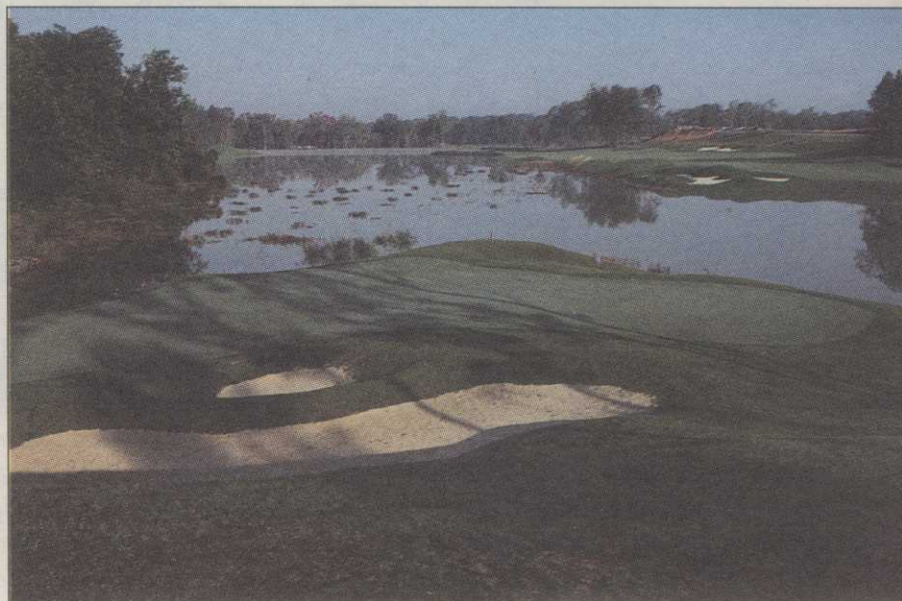
TPCs take Audubon challenge to heart

By CHRIS SMITH

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — The Tournament Players Club network has taken an aggressive approach toward the Audubon Society of New York's (ASNY) Cooperative Sanctuary Program, seeking to reinforce the notion that golf courses can and should benefit the environment.

The TPC at Southwind here recently became the fifth member of the TPC network to receive certification in the stringent Sanctuary Program. It closely follows certification of the TPC at Piper Glen in Charlotte, N.C., and TPC at River Highlands in Cromwell, Conn.

"We are the first course in Tennessee to be certified, which falls in line with what we have tried to be for many years — leaders in the golf industry," said General Manager John Huggins, promising



TPC at Piper Glen takes special care of its environment, such as the wetlands on this 17th hole.

to "truly work diligently over the next several years to actively build wildlife on the course and make it something special, unique to this area. We want to get

more members and homeowners involved."

"Our superintendent, Stewart Richards,

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TPCs commit to come under Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary umbrella

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did a wonderful job in meeting the criteria," said Wayne White, general manager at Piper Glen. "All in all, we are helping the environment and are more in tune with water and wildlife management on our golf course. Everyone benefits from this."

Only 49 of the more than 15,000 golf courses in the United States have met all the criteria set forth by the ASNY since the golf course program was introduced in 1991. The procedure

begins with a written plan of action, followed by implementation of programs for wildlife habitat management, public/member involvement, Integrated Pest Management, water conservation and water-quality management.

"It was quite an extensive project and our staff put a lot of time and effort into it," said Robert Norton, general manager at River Highlands. "It's not just because we wanted to do it. It was the correct thing to do. Being right next to the Connecticut River

and hosting the largest sporting event in New England [Canon Greater Hartford Open], it is important for us to be as environmentally conscious as we can be."

Previously certified within the network were the TPC at Summerlin in Las Vegas and TPC of Michigan in Dearborn. The other six TPC facilities are expected to be certified by mid-1996.

"The TPC network has always tried to be a leader in the golf and club industry, and that is reflected in our commitment to environmen-

tal excellence through the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program," said Pete Davison, vice president of PGA Tour Golf Course Properties, Inc. "The [Audubon] program gave us a vehicle to solidify what we have been doing all along."

The Cooperative Sanctuary Program began in 1989 and a program for golf courses was introduced two years later.

"You find some who are really enthusiastic about it [certification], going above and beyond to

receive certification," said ASNY staff ecologist Marla Briggs. "The TPCs fit in that category."

"The certification program established a clear set of guidelines," said Cal Roth, the TPC network's national director of golf course maintenance operations.

"Just joining the program gave us ideas and concepts and endorsed what we already were doing. Through the certification program, we have been able to further enhance the environmental aspects of our properties."

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Kevin Prysieski, Golf Course Manager
Cattail Creek Country Club
Glenwood, Maryland



Mike Brisbois, Golf Course Superintendent
Chateau Elan-Legends Course
Braselton, Georgia



Preston Maxey, Golf Course Superintendent
Decatur Country Club
Decatur, Alabama

History's heroes

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the leading agronomic science organizations in the U.S. and the various phases of applied turf management, the Greenkeepers Society of America (now the GCSAA) in particular. Furthermore, it enables scientists to meet on an unbiased common ground for the purpose of integrating their research activities and harmonizing the future development of the national turf program in all its phases."

For the first time, turf achieved recognition as an important national entity. Nine years later, turfgrass science had its own division of the CSSA.

The USGA was fortunate to have scientists like Drs. Piper, Oakley, Monteith and Grau lead the way for the Green Section, greenkeeping and turfgrass science. The accomplishments made by scientists during the last 40 years were achieved, in part, due to the early efforts of these and many other pioneers who were encouraged and supported by the game of golf.

Now, more than ever, golf is needed to help maintain the programs at our universities and agricultural experiment stations. The USGA turfgrass and environmental research programs cannot support these institutions alone.

In the 1931 Golfers Yearbook, Monteith wrote: "No one seriously believes that the golfer's ideal of turf will ever be fully realized, for as the present generation of golfers with modern conception of golf turf passes on to its reward of broad fairways and one-putter greens on the flawless courses of the Great Beyond, new golfers will no doubt replace them with new standards and the never-ending criticisms of playing conditions.

"Nevertheless, the rapidly accumulating knowledge of turf culture is making it possible for clubs to maintain far better turf today than was possible only a few years ago, and the same marked improvement can reasonably be expected in the future. Progress, however, can only be made in any field in direct proportion to the finding and dissemination of new information, new methods and unfailing interest."