

Survey says: We want bentgrass!

MIDDLETOWN, Ohio — The People have spoken.

Golfers at the 36-hole Weatherwax Golf Course have voted overwhelmingly to replace the city-owned course's bluegrass fairways with bentgrass, and they'll soon be getting their way.

About 75 percent of roughly 600 golfers surveyed said they preferred bentgrass, according to David Tieman. Tieman said the seeding of new bentgrass will be done during scheduled golf course renovations this fall and in the fall of 1997.

Wadsworth Golf Construction Company is scheduled to begin a \$2.1 million renovation project on the course after Labor Day. Plans call for renovations to tees, bunkers, fairways and cart paths on 18 holes this fall and the remaining 18 holes next fall.

Renovations are scheduled to begin on the Woodside course after Labor Day and on the Meadows course in late September or early October.

The courses will be closed during renovations and are expected to open next spring.

Golf may develop on Canadian base

TORONTO — Forty-six companies and other groups have submitted proposals for redeveloping the former Downsview military base, and golf courses have been the most popular proposed use for the 600-acre property.

Canada Lands Co., the federal crown corporation managing the base assets, said that as many as six of the proposals involve golf courses. Most of the base's big build-

ings, such as a couple of mammoth aircraft hangars and a gigantic bomb-proof warehouse [the world's largest cart barns, eh?] are included.

According to Canada Lands, redevelopment of the base site will also include residential, business, commercial and other recreational space. The project is supposed to replace some of the 1,000 military jobs lost with the closing of the base.

Developers fined for wading in without permits

DANBURY, N.H. — In one of the costlier environmental suits brought by the state in many years, the owners of Ragged Mountain Ski Area have been ordered to pay \$85,000 in penalties and transfer \$125,000 worth of property to the state for violating environmental laws while expanding ski trails and building a golf course it never had permits to build.

A judge's ruling in late July concluded a 7-week-old lawsuit against the ski area, which, according to a 6-month investigation, broke five wetlands violations and water pollution control laws during construction last summer of new ski trails and a golf course.

According to the New Hampshire Attorney General's office, the owners of the ski area, Al and Walter Endriunas of Easton, Mass., did not contest the violations in the lawsuit and will pay the fine in three installments over the next three years.

The court ruling also required the ski area to stop all work involved in the construction of the course until it gets the necessary permits from the state Department of Environmental Services, which also took part in the investigation.

Al Endriunas, who has repeatedly denied any wrongdoing, told the *Concord Monitor* he intends to move forward with the ski area expansion project and an 18-hole course, which will be put off until at least spring 1997. The project had been in the works for nearly two years when a suit was filed in June and a judge ordered a halt to all construction.

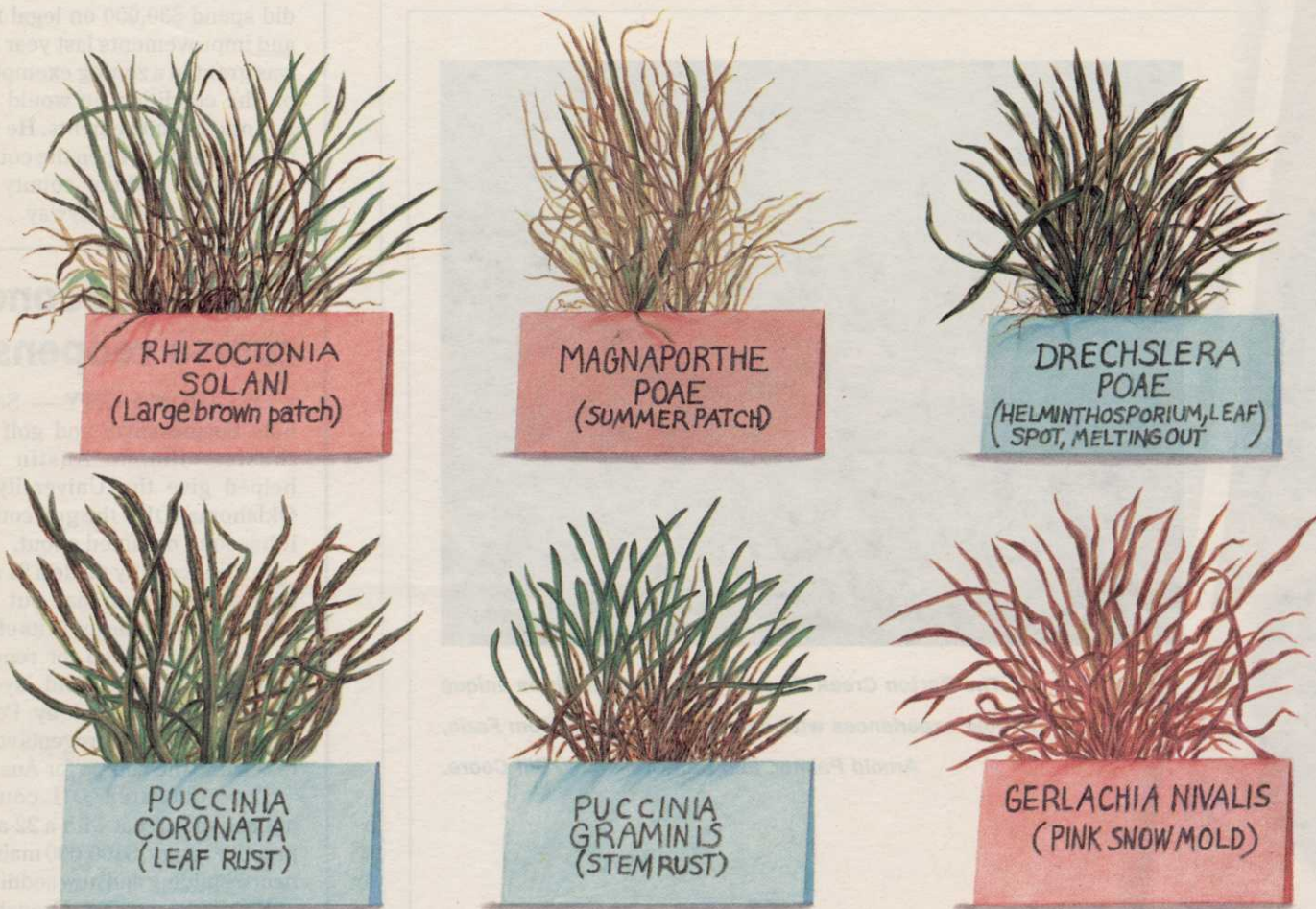
The state investigated the ski area after residents complained last summer that clear-cutting at the ski area was causing huge amounts of topsoil and silt to flow into and pollute an area known as Bog Brook.

Seattle landfill course honored

SEATTLE, Wash. — The Golf Club at Newcastle, an upscale 36-hole public/private facility being built on a former coal mine, was one of five projects around the country to be recognized with an award for excellence in environmental health from the National Association of County and Health Officials.

The 350-acre, \$40 million project was cited as an outstanding example of cooperation and innovative use of a former landfill. The Golf Club at Newcastle, which will feature an 18-hole daily-fee course and an 18-hole private course, is being developed by the Bellevue, Wash.-based Oki developments.

The first of the two courses, both designed by course architect Robert Cupp, will open in 1997.



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