

GOLF COURSE NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

A UNITED PUBLICATION
VOLUME 9, NUMBER 8
AUGUST 1997 • \$5.50

INSIDE

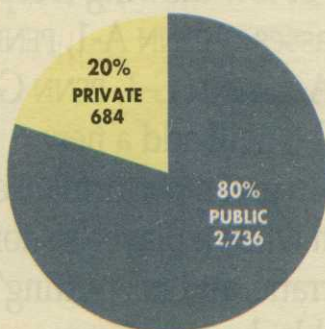
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A half-day session on biological controls, led by Dr. Eric Nelson, will highlight PGF's second day 54

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Yes. A sure-fire folk remedy that works wonders on your pond algae 18

TOTAL GOLF COURSE OPENINGS BY TYPE: 1986-1996



Source: National Golf Foundation

PUBLIC GOLF ROLLS ON

After 1990, new golf course openings began to pick up steam. Public golf, specifically daily-fee golf, contributed most to the upsurge in golf course development. See page 3 for more stats on the growing public golf arena.

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Toro, G&H ready for day in court

By M. LEVANS

BLOOMINGTON, Minn./LOS ANGELES — The battle between the Toro Company and Grizzle & Hunter Plastic Inc. — which has raged since December 1995 — will be tried by a jury on September 23.

Through the trial, Toro is seeking an injunction against Grizzle & Hunter that would permanently bar the manufacturer from producing its Bear Irrigation replacement sprinkler products.

In December 1995, Toro accused Grizzle & Hunter's top executives of stealing trade secrets related to the sprinkler conversion assembly — the guts of the sprinkler head. Grizzle & Hunter, a company spearheaded by Glendale Grizzle, an ex-Toro employee of 28 years, has been marketing a univer-

sal conversion assembly that can replace worn out Toro and Rain Bird sprinkler assemblies.

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COMING HOME

The 9th and 18th greens at Greystone Golf Club in Walworth, N.Y. This Craig Schreiner creation opened in June. See Q&A page 33.

Widow's Walk places environment first

By MARK LESLIE

SCITUATE, Mass. — When Palmer Course Design Co. finishes rebuilding The Presidio in San Francisco, the country will be bracketed by its first two "environmental demonstration project" golf courses. The first, Widow's Walk Golf Course, located on an old gravel pit and dump site in this coastal Massachusetts community, opened for play on June 28, to the delight of

golfers and environmentalists alike.

"I don't think any golf course has had more publicity than this one. That's because of what it is and

what it represents," said Dr. Michael Hurdzan who, with lead designer Bill Kerman and input from various environmental

Continued on page 23

Casper to keynote Public Golf Forum

By M. LESLIE

OAK BROOK HILLS, Ill. — Hall of Fame golfer Billy Casper, who has followed his playing career by operating golf course design and management companies, will keynote the 1997 Public Golf Forum here on Oct. 27.

The only national conference and show targeted to the owners, managers, developers and superintendents of public-access golf facilities, the *Golf Course News*-sponsored Public Golf Forum will be held Oct. 27-28 at Oak Brook Hills

Continued on page 50



The legendary Billy Casper

Whitbread takes lead

By PETER BLAIS

WARWICKSHIRE, England — This fall the European golfing community will turn its eyes to Whitbread Hotel Co.'s Marriott Forest of Arden Hotel & Country Club, site of the final European Tour stop before this September's much-anticipated Ryder Cup.

"We're hoping a number of the European team players will play in the One 2 One British Masters," said Whitbread Marketing Director Janet Matthews.

While the golfing public's attention will be fixed on the Warwickshire facility this September, the golf industry's gaze has turned with increasing

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A FINE FINISH

Kyle Phillips liked this course so much he moved there. The 18th at Granite Bay (Calif.) Golf Club is an example of Phillips' work with RTJII. See story on Phillips' new solo career, page 33.

National Seal gets ISO, GAI OK

AURORA, Ill. — The Quality Control Laboratory at National Seal Co.'s Galesburg, Ill., facility successfully passed an audit by TUV Rheinland of North America and was awarded ISO 9003 certification by Deutscher Akkreditierungs Rat (DAR-Germany).

"Having a quality system conforming to ISO 9003 gives us a strong edge in the world marketplace where certification is almost a prerequisite for doing business, especially in the European Community," said Lance Reed, quality assurance manager for National Seal, a manufacturer and installer of polyethylene lining and piping systems for waste and liquid containment.

The ISO 9000 series of standards was created by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) to simplify the international exchange of goods and services by developing a common set of quality requirements. ISO 9003 is the quality systems standard focusing on final inspection and testing of manufactured product.

NSC-Galesburg documented and demonstrated compliance to all sixteen elements in ISO 9003 including internal auditing, timely corrective action, the handling of customer complaints, and a comprehensive laboratory calibration program.

National Seal's equipment applications

include ponds, lagoons and reservoirs.

The company's Quality Control lab also passed an audit by the Geosynthetic Accreditation Institute - Laboratory Accreditation Program (GAI-LAP).

GAI-LAP provides credibility to laboratories showing compliance with equipment and documentation for specific standard test methods. GAI-LAP also verifies that an effective quality system exists at all accredited laboratories.

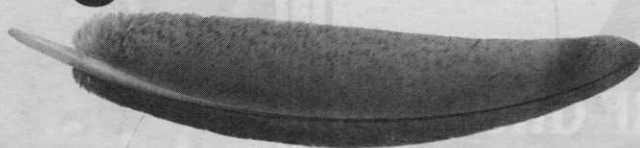
Golf Ventures lands in Jupiter

LAKELAND, Fla. — Golf Ventures Inc. has opened its third regional service center. The new office, located in Jupiter, Fla., serves Indian River, Okeechobee, St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Broward and Dade Counties.

The new location services the golf course maintenance industry specifically and distributes Lykes Fertilizer, Helena Chemical, Lofts Seed, Ringer, PSA, Emerald Isle, Bio Turf Gro, Green Releaf and a number of other specialty products.

Staffing the Jupiter office will be representatives David Cheesman, Walt McMahon and Mike Bonetti. The office manager is Sue Sjosten. Sjosten has a number of years experience in the golf industry, including serving for four years as the administrative assistant in the Florida Regional office of the USGA Green Section.

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Toro vs. G&H

Continued from page 1

According to Larry Buckley, Toro's attorney, "What we believe was stolen is the concept of the assembly; in turn, opening a great opportunity for a universal assembly based on the inside knowledge that Grizzle gained over his years at Toro."

At the end of November, 1996, Toro sought an injunction through the U.S. District Court in Los Angeles to remove certain Bear sprinkler products from the market until the time of trial. The Court denied Toro's injunction.

During the first week in June, 1997, Judge Takasugi released the Court's conclusion, stating that Toro did not have sufficient admissible evidence to support its claims that Grizzle & Hunter stole trade secrets.

"We're sitting in a good position right now," said Pam Wagner, an attorney from Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP, the law firm handling the case Grizzle & Hunter. "The main focus of this lawsuit wasn't so much about money as it was about Toro trying to put our client out of business. We already knew the judge found some problems with their evidence. But from our standpoint, the hearing in November 1996 was the most important case."

Like Wagner, Toro is also confident that its case has enough evidence to win at trial. "Toro has carefully considered the situation and made the decision that it must take protective action when Toro's proprietary technology and information is at risk," said Rick Parod, vice president and general manager of Toro's irrigation business.

"Unless there's a delay or settlement, we'll be ready to go to trial on September 23," added Buckley.

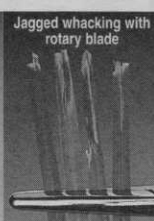
GOLF COURSE NEWS



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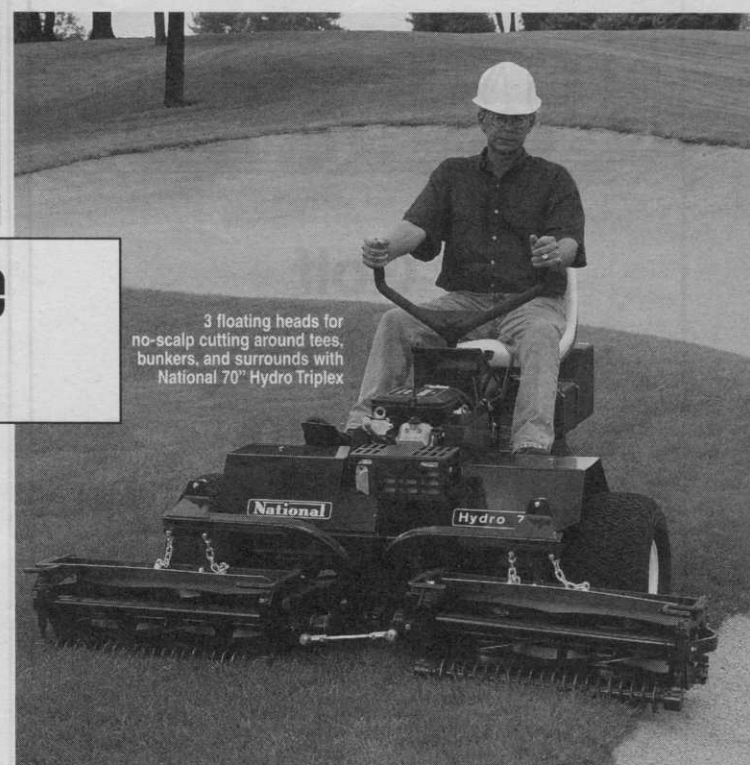
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