

# GOLF COURSE NEWS

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## INSIDE

### No Tax Relief

Twenty-three Sarasota-area courses have resorted to legal means in their fight for tax justice ..... 3

### Spring Preparation

Already?... Coverage includes prepping a new course, fertilizer strategies and new products ..... 31-34



#### OLD TOM & MORE

Ben Crenshaw will receive the GCSAA's Old Tom Morris Award next month in Las Vegas. But there is so much more on the docket: Tournaments, elections, seminars... For a preview, see pages 27-30.

#### COURSE MAINTENANCE

Q&A: Buffalograss expert Dr. Terry Riordan ..... 15  
Pebble Beach effluent study to commence ..... 18  
Talking Shop: Hand-watering made easy ..... 20

#### COURSE DEVELOPMENT

Lohmann expands into the Southeast ..... 36  
Q&A: A revealing chat with ASGCA directors ..... 39  
Real Desert Golf: Sanford busy on the Sinai ..... 42

#### COURSE MANAGEMENT

Palmer, Carefree find financial backing ..... 45, 49  
AGCC reciprocates; AGC's Heacock moves up ..... 45  
Forum Follow-Up: Customer Service Top 10 ..... 62

#### SUPPLIER BUSINESS

Biological firm discovers the rigors of FIFRA ..... 53  
Agrotech, Organica merge; C-LOC bought ..... 53, 57  
What's new in the marketplace? ..... 58

## New wetlands regs impact development

By MARK LESLIE

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has changed a wetlands permitting regulation that will affect commercial and residential developers across the board.

Ten percent of golf course projects built the last few years would have been affected by the new parameters had they been in effect, according to Dr. Stuart Cohen, president of Environmental & Turf Services, Inc. of Wheaton, Md.

The regulation is Nation Wide Permit (NWP) 26, which is routinely re-issued every few years. In recent years, it has allowed projects

affecting 1 to 10 acres of isolated wetlands or stream headwaters. People could impact as much as 1 acre of wetlands without seeking permits. Under the new parameters, which went into effect in December, the 10-acre maximum of wetlands that a development can affect has been reduced to 3 acres and the 1 "free" acre

Continued on page 61

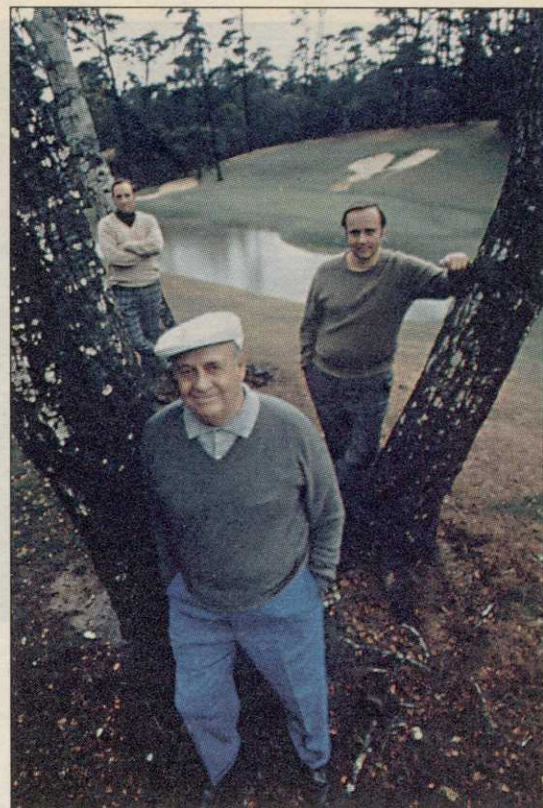
## Pesticide-free courses not in the cards?

By MARK LESLIE

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Faced with the rigors of foot traffic and golfer demands for low cutting heights, consistent ball lie and roll, superintendents' attempts to be pesticide-free are futile, according to a panel of scientists.

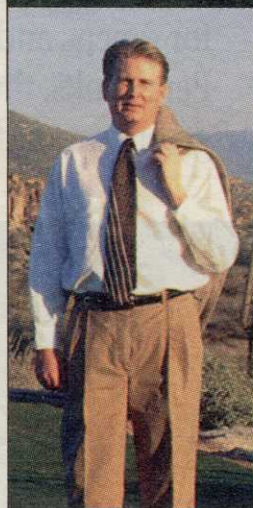
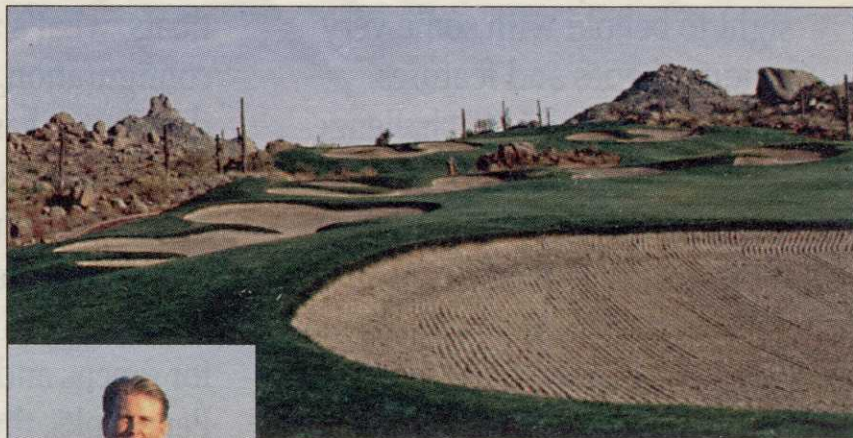
Speaking here at the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Show & Conference, Drs. Dave Shetlar and Joe Rimelspach of Ohio State University and Dr. Stuart Cohen of Environmental & Turf Services concluded that, with a handful of exceptions, no golf course is pesticide-free.

Continued on page 22



#### A FAMILY AFFAIR

The Jones Boys — sons Rees (left) and Bobby flanking dad Trent at Spyglass in the 1960s — are perhaps the best-known examples of design legacies. While the Jones Clan has been honored as the NGF's Family of the Year (p. 11), course architecture is filled with father-son teams. See story p. 35.



Above: The 18th hole at Troon North's Pinnacle Course. Inset: Troon Chairman Dana Garmany.

## Newly capitalized Troon Golf targets upscale daily-fee market

By PETER BLAIS

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Formation of a new partnership between Scottsdale-based Troon Golf Management and Starwood Capital Group LLC of Greenwich, Conn., should help Troon expand its golf course management portfolio and acquire additional properties.

"We're looking at the East and Midwest," said Troon Golf President and Chief Executive Officer Dana Garmany. We'll probably double our size to about 20 properties in the next 12 months."

Troon Golf's new partner, Starwood, is a 50-50 partner with Goldman Sachs in Westin Hotels. It also

Continued on page 51

## McGinnis: Supers need more credit, support

By PETER BLAIS

PEORIA, Ariz. — Getting course owners and club members to appreciate the contributions of their superintendents will be the primary goal of new Golf Course Superintendents Association of America President Paul McGinnis.

"Superintendents simply don't receive the support and credit they deserve," said the head superintendent at Moon Valley Country Club here, who will assume the GCSAA presidency at the association's annual meeting in Las Vegas this February.

"We have quotes from Ben Crenshaw, Tom Watson and Rees Jones testifying to the superintendent's importance. But the word hasn't gotten out enough, yet. We're planning educational seminars for owners and green chairmen at both the annual meeting and at regional seminars around the country.

"We'll continue to use *Newsline* [the GCSAA newsletter], which is mailed to

Continued on page 30