

GOLF COURSE NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

**NTEP QUALITY RATINGS:
PERENNIAL RYEGRASS**
page 46

A UNITED PUBLICATION
VOLUME 9, NUMBER 7
JULY 1998 • \$5.50

INSIDE

Spotlight on Asia

Is the Philippine golf industry poised for a rebound? Overbeck takes a closer look 11

Battle for Atlanta

North and South American superintendents take on the world in October's Hayter Cup. 18



Photo by: David Morris

WEISKOPF RETURNS TO BROKEN TOP

Tom Weiskopf (left) surveys Broken Top with golf pro Andy Heiny, club general manager Ron Delaney and member Ray Grimm. Weiskopf returns to this, one of his favorite sites, to do a little fine tuning to the course over the summer.

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Field Days: Seed quality put to the test

By MICHAEL LEVANS

CORVALLIS, Oregon — With field burning severely cut back and three mild, very wet winters behind them, Oregon-based seed growers are facing what is perhaps the heaviest onslaught of *Poa annua*, *Poa trivialis* and native bentgrasses contamination the industry has seen.

According to regional seed growers, the problem has been mounting over the past five years and is affecting species across the board — even species that are tra-

ditionally *Poa*-free.

El Nino, plus lack of field burning to blame for woes

ditionally *Poa*-free. "We're basically starting to see the effects of five or six years of no burning," said Glenn Jacklin, senior vice president of production and grower services at Jacklin Seed Co.

The past three mild winters haven't helped either. Due to higher than normal temperatures and extensive rains, growers aren't getting

the necessary activity out of standard chemical practices. "This year we're seeing *Poa annua* in production areas that we traditionally don't see it because of the winters," said Jacklin. "With El Nino, we had a pretty light winter in all our production regions."

The work now rests on the shoulders of seed farmers. The seed cleaning process has slowed considerably while, in many cases, farmers have added costly machinery upgrades to

Continued on page 46

Childs play: Kids Course a new first

By MARK LESLIE

LAWRENCEBURG, Ky. — A "kid's course" built within the existing layout may prove a key option for golf facilities around the country, now that Bob-O-Link Golf Course has pioneered the concept.

On Father's Day, Bob-O-Link opened its Kids Course within the 22-year-old track, thanks to owner Jack Ridge, who is also a golf course architect and president of a children's golf-product company, Club Pro Products in Louisville.

"Golf has missed the boat," Ridge declared. "Everybody's mindset has been junior golf — teenagers — but no one has thought of kids up to 10 years old. That's what separates this course."

The idea for the Kids Course, he said, stemmed from parents who bought

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Aerial view of Florida's Sandestin Resorts course.

Intrawest continues move on South

By PETER BLAIS

VANCOUVER, B.C., Canada — Vancouver-based Intrawest, one of the largest ski resort owners in North America, has moved further into the warm-weather resort market with its recent purchase agreement to buy Florida's Sandestin Resorts for \$130 million. Sandestin is a 2,400-acre golf course resort with 63 holes of

golf and a residential community located between Pensacola and Panama City.

Tom Richardson, chief financial officer of American Skiing Co. (ASC), also a large owner/operator of ski resorts and golf courses throughout the country, said of the Sandestin deal: "It has a lot of condominium management opportu-

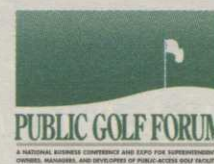
Continued on page 42

— The First Tee takes first strides —

General Session set for national forum

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. — The First Tee program, an initiative that is sweeping the country to draw new people, especially children, into golf, will be the focus of the General Session at this year's Public Golf Forum here, Oct. 26-27.

Created by the World Golf Foundation, PGA Tour, LPGA, PGA of America



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Richmond project construction starts

By MARK LESLIE

RICHMOND, Va. — Iron Bridge Park, which offers baseball, softball, soccer, tennis, football, basketball, handball, racquetball and trails for hiking and biking, is about to add perhaps the nation's first project specifically developed to be a First Tee facility.

Continued on page 54

Continued on page 32

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BRIEFS

JUPITER, Fla. — The 427 golf courses built in the United States in 1997 have had a positive impact on the economy, according to Richard Norton, a National Golf Foundation vice president. Construction projects completed last year represented a total investment of roughly \$1 billion, added nearly 8,000 new jobs and \$400 million in gross sales/output to the U.S. economy. Norton estimates these facilities contribute from \$14 million to \$20 million in taxes.

•••

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Greg Norman is designing an 18-hole track that will be the centerpiece of a 1,200-acre development called The Point. This is Norman's first project in North Carolina. It will feature 13 holes that play along Lake Norman. The private course is being developed by Crescent Resources and will open fall 1999.

•••

PHOENIX — Del Webb Corp., a leading builder of active-adult communities for people 55 and older, has closed the sale of its course and country club facilities at its Terravita community in north Scottsdale. The property was sold to an equity membership group comprised of community residents. The purchase price was not disclosed.

Best golf cities by size

(Number in parentheses indicates position in overall rank)

BIG CITIES

Population more than 1 million

Top 10

1. Salt Lake City (59)
2. Greensboro, N.C. (84)
3. Minneapolis (103)
4. Cleveland (112)
5. Oklahoma City (113)
6. Austin, Texas (124)
7. Nassau, N.Y. (128)
8. San Antonio, Texas (134)
9. Milwaukee (151)
10. Denver (164)

Bottom 10 (Worst first)

1. New York City (308)
2. Bergen, N.J. (307)
3. Charlotte, N.C. (306)
4. Philadelphia (305)
5. San Francisco (304)
6. Orange County, Calif. (302)
7. Oakland, Calif. (301)
8. Raleigh, N.C. (300)
9. Washington, D.C. (294)
10. San Jose, Calif. (293)

MEDIUM CITIES

Population 250,000 to 1 million

Top 10

1. Rockford, Ill. (12)
2. Davenport, Iowa (23)
3. Dutchess County, N.Y. (25)
4. Ann Arbor, Mich. (27)
5. Mobile, Ala. (31)
6. Spokane, Wash. (33)
7. Boise, Idaho (34)
8. Provo, Utah (35)
9. Peoria, Ill. (36)
10. Springfield, Mass. (40)

MEDIUM CITIES (cont.)

Population 250,000 to 1 million

Bottom 10 (Worst first)

1. Richmond, Va. (309)
2. Wilmington, Del. (303)
3. Fayetteville, Ark. (294)
4. Modesto, Calif. (290)
5. York, Pa. (284)
6. Honolulu (272)
7. El Paso (266)
8. Birmingham, Ala. (265)
9. Stockton, Calif. (262)
10. Beaumont, Texas (260)

SMALL CITIES

Population less than 250,000

Top 10

1. Duluth, Minn. (1)
2. Rapid City, S.D. (2)
3. Fargo, N.D. (3)
4. Waterloo, Iowa (4)
5. Terre Haute, Ind. (5)
6. Bismarck, N.D. (6)
7. Yuma, Ariz. (7)
8. Cheyenne, Wyo. (8)
9. Fort Collins, Colo. (9)
10. Barnstable, Mass. (10)

Bottom 10 (Worst first)

1. Las Cruces, N.M. (299)
2. Dover, Del. (298)
3. Texarkana, Texas (297)
4. Hourma, La. (296)
5. Vineland, N.J. (292)
6. Rocky Mount, N.C. (291)
7. Odessa, Texas (285)
8. Laredo, Texas (283)
9. Naples, Fla. (281)
10. Longview, Texas (280)

Smaller is usually better when it comes to golf availability in U.S. cities

NEW YORK—Duluth, Minn. and Rapid City, S.D., rank first and second, respectively, while Richmond, Va., and New York City are dead last when it comes to access to good, affordable public and municipal golf among America's cities, according to a recent Golf Digest survey.

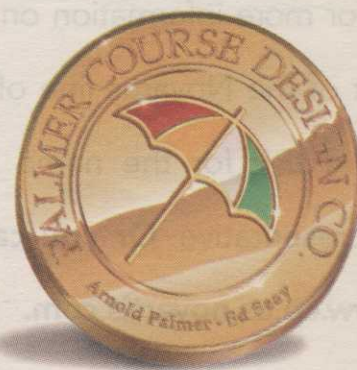
While golf is a game that is notoriously urban-unfriendly, many cities have much to offer the urban-dwelling duffer. In its upcoming July issue, *Golf Digest* lists America's 309 cities and identifies which are the best and worst for golfers.

A joint effort between the Golf Digest Research Resource Center and the Department of Geography at Oklahoma State University, the ranking was based on six criteria: number of public courses per capita; number of municipal courses per capita; number of public courses per population of golfers; number of municipal courses per population of golfers; average star rating of the courses listed in *Golf Digest's* biennial "Places To Play" guide; and the value rating of the courses listed in "Places To Play."

After every city was ranked in each criteria, the rankings were totaled and divided by six to determine an overall

Continued on page 6

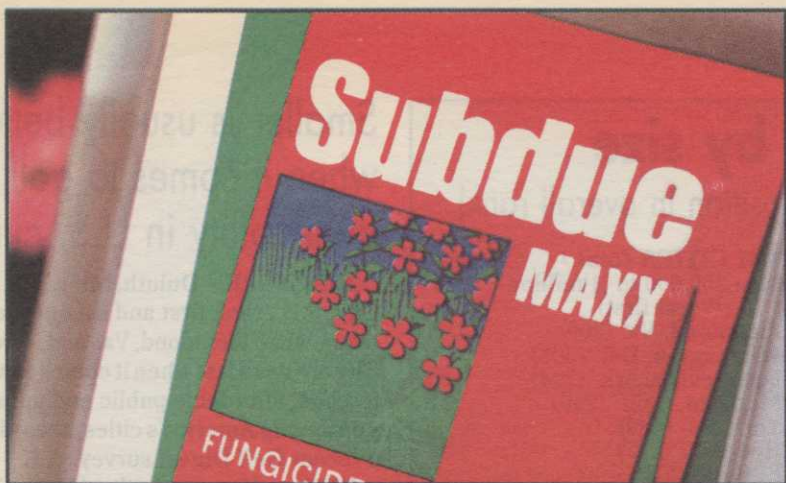
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Established First Friars CC turning heads

...the club has been in operation since 1925 and is one of the oldest in the state. The club has a long and storied history and is a member of the National Golf Club's Association. The club has a membership of over 1,000 and is a very active and social organization. The club has a beautiful clubhouse and a well-maintained golf course. The club is a great place for anyone who loves the game of golf and wants to enjoy it with friends and family.

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Palm Springs site gets environmental nod

...The proposed project would include a clubhouse, parking area and 50 condominiums. According to the project's environmental impact report, the project would have up to 150 golfers per day, including only one entrance, use electronic golf carts and electric power.

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Palm Springs site gets environmental nod



P A L M SPRINGS, Calif. — An environmental impact report for a proposed 18-hole track here at The Preserve at Mountain Falls says noise, traffic,

and the impact on plant and animals with the construction of a course is manageable.

The report is scheduled to be voted on by the City Council this fall, according to the city planning office.

Both state and federal environmental officials have concerns about the impact a course would have on the endangered peninsular bighorn sheep. About 25 bighorns live in the San Jacinto Mountains. The animals are listed as endangered by the federal government, and as threatened and fully protected by the state.

City rankings

Continued from page 3

ranking average. The final overall ranking for a city was realized by this overall ranking average.

According to the National Golf Foundation, 80 percent of all U.S. golfers play more than half of their golf on public courses. Therefore, the *Golf Digest* ranking focuses exclusively on public golf. All of the cities are defined by their Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) and include the central city, the entire county in which it is located, and in some instances, neighboring counties that are socially and economically integral to the city (i.e., commuting zones). There are 309 MSAs with an estimated 1996 population of 50,000 or more.

The analysis revealed some surprising results. While one might assume that popular golf destinations such as San Diego and Orlando would top the list, they all ranked poorly compared to the nation's other cities in terms of the availability of high-quality, affordable public golf. Cities in the golf-mad Northern states fared best. The No. 1 position in the ranking was earned by Duluth, Minn., followed by Rapid City, S.D., Fargo, N.D., Waterloo, Iowa, and Terre Haute, Ind.

While smaller cities led the ranking, Richmond, Va., hometown of PGA Tour veteran Lanny Wadkins, finished at 309-dead last. New York City, which can boast of having the best in theater, restaurants and culture, needs help in regard to public golf and finished second to last at 308.

The proposed Arnold Palmer signature championship course would also include a clubhouse, putting area and 20 condominiums.

According to Preserve officials, the project would: handle up to 140 golfers per day; include only one entrance; use electronic golf carts and electronic pagers.

Refurbished Errol Estate CC turning heads

APOPKA, Fla. — Members who banded together to buy the former Errol Country Club here for \$4.9 million from Club Corp. of America, have put more than \$1 million into renovations.

Errol Estate Country Club, as it's now called, has been spruced up by architects Clifton, Ezell and Clifton. The company has recontoured, reshaped and returned the bunkers as best they could to the way course

architect Joe Lee designed them 25 years ago.

Ezell, who lives on the course and once ran it for six years, says the renovations are a testament of how grass can recover.

Errol is a throwback to the old days that offers three nine-hole layouts, built upon rolling hills and swales uncommon to the usual, flat Florida landscape. Nearly every hole winds up or down a hillside and offers three different course rotations.

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Trump's waterfalls and cliffs to debut in Florida

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — Donald Trump is building a \$40-million private track for his Mar-a-Lago Club complete with rock cliffs and waterfalls.

The Trump International Golf Club will feature 35-foot-tall rock formations, waterfalls and a clubhouse 45 feet above sea level — the equivalent of a four-story

building. The artificial rocks are "geologically" correct cast from real California rocks and made from a mixture of concrete, plaster and fiberglass.

Trump says he wanted to build a great course next to Palm Beach, so he worked a deal with the county to lease the land as part of an agreement to drop his

lawsuit over airplane noise at his Mar-a-Lago mansion, an historic 17-acre estate once owned by Post cereal heiress and General Food Corp. founder Marjorie Merriweather Post.

Nearly 2 million cubic yards of dirt on the 215 acres at the northwest corner of Summit Boulevard and Congress Avenue is

being pushed, spread and mounded into 18 holes, including the signature 17th hole where water will cascade down from artificial rocks that are 35 feet high and 180 feet long.

Architect Jim Fazio has teamed with Jack Nicklaus' Paragon Construction Inc. to move some 5,000 trees around the property and create a hilly course on what was once a flat piece of

woodlands using dirt dug from a huge lake at the northeast corner of the property.

Fazio said Trump wanted to build even higher, but they ran out of dirt from the lake.

The course is also housed just south of Palm Beach International Airport, but noise may be countered by the sound of running water from the falls, according to newspaper reports.

Fazio said the 7,200-yard track, which was once used for ammunitions storage during World War II, and more recently as a dumping ground for old tires, will have small greens and be well-bunkered and well-angled.

A 25,000-square-foot, Mediterranean-style clubhouse designed by Rick Gonzalez of REG Architects in West Palm Beach will include a grill room, lockers, pro shop and formal dining.

The course is slated to open November 1999.

TPC readying Orlando site

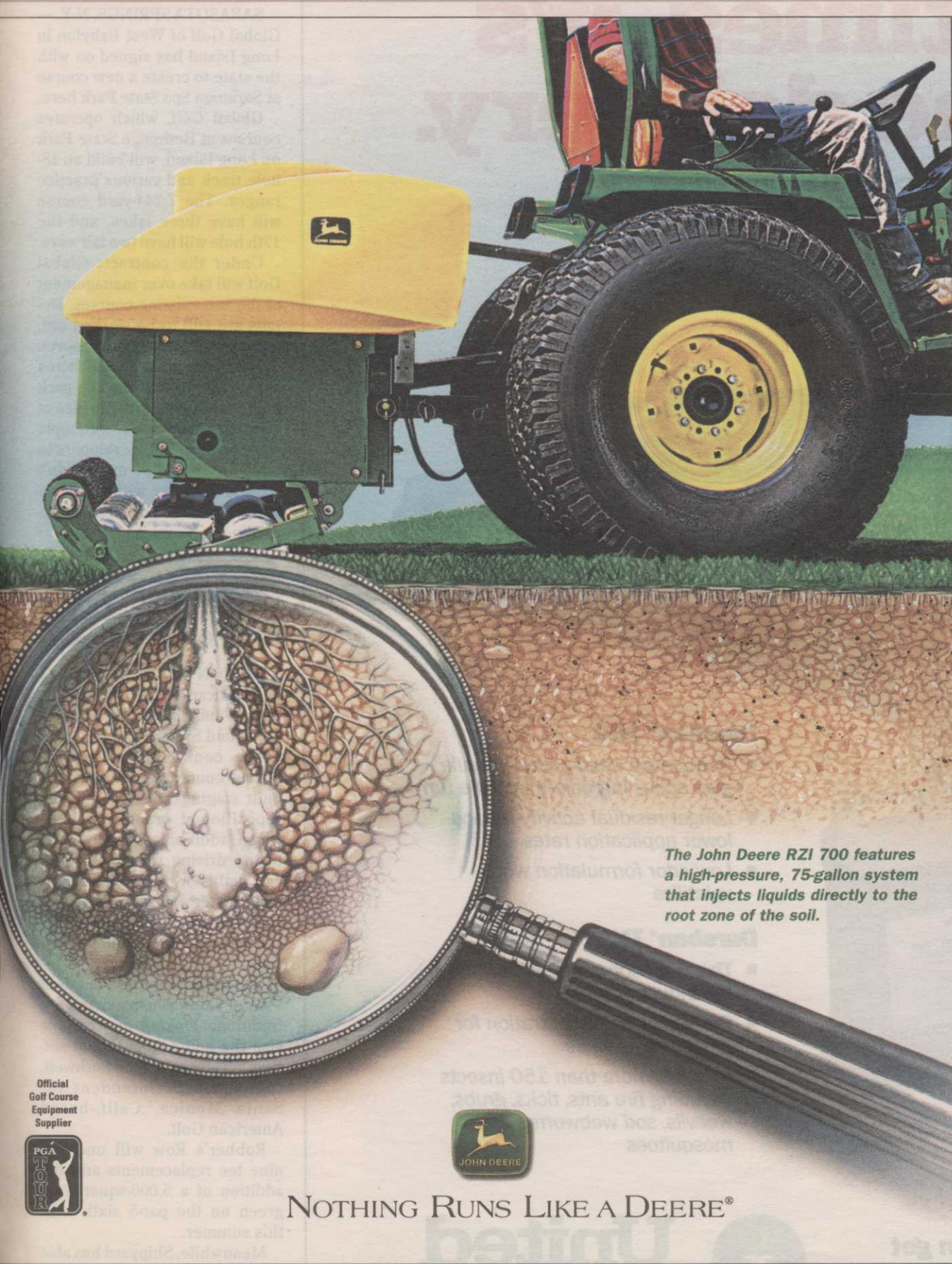
ORLANDO, Fla. — This central Florida city will be the home of a new \$150-million golf development that will include three courses and hotels, and be the first Tournament Players Club in Orlando.

The development by Lake Nona Property Holdings and PGA Tour Golf Course Properties is planned on 500 acres near the Orlando International Airport, at the southern end of 6,670-acre Lake Nona, a community of multi-million-dollar homes. The links will be called the TPC at Lake Nona.

The public facility will feature at least three high-end tracks, an upscale hotel, golf training academy, par-3 course and a practice area. They will be designed by Arnold Palmer, Tom Fazio and Pete Dye who will construct the three courses simultaneously next to one another. They expect the challenge of outperforming one another will vastly improve the quality of the tracks.

Construction is to start in September, with the three links—tentatively named the Lakes, Woodlands and Sand Dunes—scheduled to open in early 2000.

The Lake Nona community consists of 6,500 acres of undeveloped land, so there are options for additional courses, according to PGA Tour officials.



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Meadowbrook close to finalizing ClubCorp. buyout

PHILADELPHIA, Penn. — Meadowbrook Golf Group Inc. of Lakeland, Fla. is close to closing a deal with Dallas-based Club Corp. of America and assuming management of six public courses, nine properties and a sports center here.

Bill Stine, chief operating officer of Meadowbrook, said his

company has received the go-ahead from the city of Philadelphia for the buyout of ClubCorp.'s remaining 13-year contract, but is waiting for word from the officials of New Castle County, Del. and Middletown, Penn. for two courses there which are part of the negotiations.

Stine says Middletown's potential approval has been pushed to July due to town council schedules. He says it is possible to close the deal with Philadelphia first, and follow up with the remaining two courses — Porky Oliver's in Delaware and Middletown Country Club in Pennsylvania — at a later date.

"Our deal with CCA is that we would close them all at the same time, but given the fact that the big one is out of the way, we might close them separately. But in order to do so, we have to allocate the value of each one," says Stine.

Arnold Rosenstein, chairman of

Meadowbrook in the Beverly Hills, Calif. office, says he expects full approval in the near future, and that the addition of these tracks fits into the firm's business of managing municipal courses. "It will give us expanded presence in the northeastern United States," says Rosenstein.



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CIRCLE #105

Global Golf to build at N.Y. park

SARASOTA SPRINGS, N.Y. — Global Golf of West Babylon on Long Island has signed on with the state to create a new course at Saratoga Spa State Park here.

Global Golf, which operates courses at Bethpage State Park on Long Island, will build an 18-hole track and various practice ranges. The 7,244-yard course will have three lakes, and the 17th hole will have two fairways.

Under the contract, Global Golf will take over management of the two existing courses. Details are still to be worked out, according to newspaper reports.

The state bought 312 acres across the street from the park in the mid-1960s with the idea of creating a third course. Attempts were made to lure developers to build in 1996, but most didn't want to compete with the nine- and 18-hole existing courses, according to newspaper reports.

Facelifts started at Port Royal, Shipyard

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. — American Golf is in the middle of a \$4 million facelift for Port Royal and Shipyard.

The construction here includes course renovations, rebuilt staging area, rebuilt and repositioned practice putting green, addition of practice mats to the driving range, and new cart paths for the Robber's Row and Planter's Row layouts.

The work also includes a re-fashioning of the Planter's Row layout.

The reason for the changes at Planter's Row is to make it more traditional-looking and emphasize the course's parkland setting, according to Paul Rothwell, regional superintendent for Santa Monica, Calif.-based American Golf.

Robber's Row will undergo nine tee replacements and the addition of a 5,000-square-foot green on the par-5 sixth hole this summer.

Meanwhile, Shipyard has also had 14 tees rebuilt. Both complexes are scheduled for more renovations in the future.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

New golf Hall to get second course

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla. — The World Golf Hall of Fame is now open and plans to build a second, 18-hole course within the 6,300-acre development are on tap here in the next year.

The track will be called the King and Bear in salute to Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus. A third, yet-to-be-named course, is to be built by 2001. The Hall already has one existing course called the Slammer and Squire, named for Hall of Famers Sam Snead and Gene Sarazen, located next door.

In conjunction with the 75,000-square-foot World Golf Hall of Fame facility, the \$250 million World Golf Village will include

Ground broken for exclusive Texas golf club

FORT BEND COUNTY, Texas — Ground has been broken for a private, 36-hole track designed by Rees Jones here.

The Houstonian Golf Club is Jones' first project in Texas.

The Redstone Group, a Houston-based international financial services group, is the developer and plans to operate one course as an exclusive club, and the second as an amenity to hotel guests and Houstonian Club members.

Jones will blend the property's existing 65-acre lake and Texas flora with rolls, hollows and sculpted landforms.

Separate clubhouses will be built for each of the courses. Jim Hardy of Golf Services Group in Houston is the project manager.

Cobblestone buys 3rd Atlanta track

DEL MAR Calif.—Cobblestone Golf Group, Inc. has acquired Eagle's Landing Country Club. This purchase represents Cobblestone's third acquisition in the Atlanta market. In addition to Eagles Landing Country Club, other Cobblestone courses include The Trophy Club of Gwinnett and The Trophy Club of Apalachee.

Eagles Landing is a private, club located in the Eagles Landing Development gated community. The course was designed by Tom Fazio and opened in 1991.

Cobblestone purchased the property from Killlearn Inc., an Atlanta-based real-estate development company. This acquisition will only encompass Eagles Landing Country Club. The Inn at Eagles Landing will continue to be owned and operated by Killlearn Inc.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

three golf courses, an IMAX theater, 70 exhibits, convention center, resort hotel and an assortment of homes.

This will be golf's first internationally unified hall of fame, according to PGA Tour commissioner Deane Beman, who conceived the original idea more than a decade ago.

Tenn. businessmen developing Jamaican project

JAMAICA — Construction has begun on a \$113 million, 18-hole track and a Ritz-Carlton hotel project, touted as the largest private venture in Jamaica. It is being undertaken by Knoxville, Tenn.-area businessmen and developers.

The site is located on the historic Rose Hall plantation, 8 miles from the Montego Bay International Airport. The Lawler-Wood Group of Knoxville is the developer. Smallwood,

Reynolds, Stewart, Stewart & Association of Atlanta is the architect, in association with the Jamaican firm Marvin Goodman & Associates.

The general contractor for the project is a joint venture between Brice Building Co. and Bill Harbet International of Birmingham, Ala. von Hagge, Smelek & Baril of Spring, Texas is designing the course. The project will be completed in December 1999.

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Field days are actually fun

I must admit, I wasn't sure what I was in for when I was making my flight arrangements for Portland, Ore., to attend 1998's batch of field days. But what I found after six days in the Corvallis Valley is that I'm now a whole hell of a lot more knowledgeable on the foundation of any good golf course — grass.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with these yearly happenings — there can't be many of you — field days are ways for grass seed companies to share their latest research findings and grass varieties with distributors, retailers and superintendents. Most field days start with opening remarks from company presidents, guest speakers and research technicians that plot the company's current position and future plans. Following these remarks, and lots of coffee, attendees are lead around the test trials of the company's various grass varieties to check in on the progress.

It was this field tour segment that I questioned at the outset. Being my first time to the fields, I wasn't sure what I would gain out of looking down toward my shoes at five or six varieties of tall fescue. But what I failed to factor in was that while I was, in fact, staring down at my shoes, there would be a voice booming out of a speaker that would actually explain to me what I was seeing and what I should look for in the different varieties.

Overall, what I thought would be of no help to me at all ended up being a valuable, educational experience.

A pat on the back should go to the seed companies that hold these days. I realize that they're designed as marketing events, yet they offer enough of an educational slant that they end up serving a dual purpose — a pleasant surprise.

While I'm busy passing out the back slaps, a special thanks to the folks at American Golf Corp.'s Pumpkin Ridge Golf Club, OB Sports' Langdon Farms Golf Club and The Reserve, as well as the staff at Trysting Tree Golf Club.

Pumpkin Ridge, Langdon and The Reserve truly epitomize the "country club for a day" concept, while Trysting Tree showed us what a good youth program can do to help push affordable, accessible public golf forward.

Teeing off before my group at Trysting Tree were two boys not older than 14. My playing partner, a local who plays the course two or three times a week, suggested that I watch how well the boys move their game along. He proceeded to tell me that before kids play the course they are put through an extensive program that teaches the kids the written and unwritten rules of the game. For \$5, he said, kids come out and spend the whole day.



Michael Levans,
editor

Help a new market into the game

Now that much of Golf Nation is focusing on helping more inner-city youths and others in America gain access the game, I suggest aiming at a whole other segment of society: liberals.

Liberate Liberals on the Links, we could call this initiative. Liberals really could be liberated by being introduced to the treasures of this game, a few of which are integrity, honesty, honor, a sense of decorum, history and tradition, and parameters for good and decent behavior.

I say we should help liberals out here because it appears not enough of them practice this game. A recent National Golf Foundation survey found that Republicans outnumber Democrats 3-1 on golf courses. Liberals would argue that the survey substantiates their feeling that golf is a sport for the wealthy. This is not true, since another survey a couple of years ago found that there are more millionaire Democrats than Republicans, especially within the ranks of Congress.

So, what can we say?

1) This is a sport for the thinking man, and therefore it is obvious in which party the intelligence lays?

2) This is a sport of skill, and right-brained people are obviously less apt to fall over themselves than left-brained?

4) This is a sport where honesty and integrity count more than anything, so we're surprised, in fact, that so many liberals play at all?

To the point at hand: I'm calling for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, PGA of America U.S. Golf Association, PGA and LPGA Tours, American Society of Golf Course Architects, Golf Course Builders Association of America, Club Managers Association of America, National Club Association, state golf associations and any others with a heart to jump aboard the train here: Liberate Liberals on the Links.

And if you're not part of an association like any of these, take this challenge to a personal level. Invite a liberal friend to play a round of golf with you. Unveil to him the character of the game of golf, then watch to see the metamorphosis.

...

Hats off to the many superintendents around the country who devote so much time to advancing the study of maintenance practices, equipment and products.

I asked Dan Dinelli of North Shore Country Club in Glenview, Ill., how he found the time to perform the research he does (see page 21).

He deferred any praise, saying: "It's a group effort. My cousin, Jerry, and I grew up here with my Dad being the superintendent. Juan, my superintendent, grew up with us... We all grew up together and work as an awesome team. It allows us flexibility to engage in other activities — trying to further the concept of sustainable turf management techniques at North Shore Country Club.

"We all enjoy doing it. The golf course gets taken care of by seasoned veterans. It's fun, but it's not a one-man show by any means."



Mark Leslie,
managing editor

LETTER FROM THE PHILIPPINES

Western ways in the East

By JOHN FARLEY

BORACAY ISLAND, The Philippines — An average day in The Philippines starts out like any Stateside day. Up at 5 a.m. and lacing the boots while throwing back a bowl of corn flakes and a cup of Joe. Then a quick commute to the office that requires headlights. Unlock the shop, start the coffee pot and post that day's maintenance activities on the schedule board. This is the point where parallels end. From 5:30 on, a different part of the world comes to light.

The Philippines is not unlike its many struggling Asian neighbors. Many of the countries in Southeast Asia have been affected by foreign occupations, dictatorships and war. The Philippines was hit with all three and their affects have taken toll. A

young democracy by our standards, The Philippines is a republic where traditional Old World ways are being forced to mesh with modern New World technologies. Sometimes they mesh and sometimes they don't. Most of the time they don't.

One of the most important things I've learned since working in Asia is to keep cool and be more patient. If you're too impatient, or lose your temper too often you'll eventually lose the respect of your crew — not to mention your mind. As managers we're all aware that it's important to know when to push and when to back off. Sometimes you just need to roll with the punches.

The general pace of life is a bit slower here. The sooner you realize that the better. Of course, this puts a premium on planning

and organization. You really need to "get out in front" of things and be as pro-active as possible. It also helps to have a couple back-up plans in case plan A goes awry. My advice for rookie managers is to wear comfortable boots and don't get too wound up.

Another aspect I had to get used to was the size of the crews. In a region where labor is so cheap, crew sizes run three and four times larger than Stateside courses. This, coupled with the language barrier, made course construction a genuine challenge. I found that a good foreman is worth his weight in gold. With the right person leading a crew, a lot can be accomplished.

Many things are done manually here rather than mechanized as in the States. An example is the amount of hand-digging we do. Entire green cores and huge

Continued on page 51

LETTER TO LESLIE

Mark, you have written editorials that I felt were right on target. None, however, were as appropriate as "Resist and refuse to double under."

The golf industry is producing the product that millions of people want ... and nobody should feel guilty about that. Uninformed activists have an easy target with "lush, green, pest-free" golf courses. After all, who needs them, right?

Paul Harvey is responsible for helping many millions of Americans form their opinions on many issues over the years. In this regard, he needs to be responsible for influencing the public with facts, not fancy. Thanks again.

Ron Gagne, Regal
Chemical Co.

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Subscription Information

Golf Course News, P.O. Box 3047

Langhorne, PA 19047

215-788-7112

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GOLF COURSE NEWS

Philippines: Cautious optimism rules the day

By ANDY OVERBECK

CAGAYAN DE ORO, Philippines — Along with their Asian neighbors, the Philippines has experienced economic upheaval in the past year which has served to slow the growth of golf development in the country. The golf course industry, which is reliant on imported goods from maintenance equipment and fertilizer to expatriate management staff, has been hit hard by the continual drop of the peso against the dollar.

A year ago, there were over 100 new projects on the drawing board, now that number has been reduced to less than 30 ongoing projects. Further, the advent of strict environmental codes and regulations has meant new costs and headaches for golf course developers.

Andrew Overbeck is currently on a Watson Fellowship studying golf course development in Asia and is regularly contributing to GCN. He is visiting both existing golf courses and those under construction in Thailand, China and Vietnam.

Add the effects of El Nino, disgruntled farmers, and the rising cost of San Miguel and you have a dangerous cocktail.

However, despite these difficulties, the golf course industry marches on with plenty of projects under construction, some newly opened courses, and a handful of projects in the developmental stages.

ONGOING CONSTRUCTION AND ANGRY FARMERS

Most of the golf course development in the Philippines has concentrated in the areas close to Manila. To the south, development continues to grow for two reasons, the relative ease of access along the South Superhighway (this doesn't keep some members from utilizing their helicopters) and the relative ease of acquiring land. In this area, large tracts of land belong to single land owners and therefore, annexing property is fairly easy.

In contrast, the land to the north of Manila is owned primarily by multiple owners, making

land purchases expensive and difficult to negotiate. With the withdrawal of US forces from the Philippines in 1991, vast areas of land to the north became available for development.

However, as more agricultural land is being converted for factories and real estate development, farmers and small landowners are finding themselves increasingly displaced. The fight for land is yet another challenge to developing a golf course in the Philippines.

Within the newly formed Clark Special Economic Zone, there are three new golf courses under construction. If they are developed to the full extent, the area will eventually boast 162 holes of golf.

Indeed, complete development of the following projects is in serious question as the new developers are paying careful attention to the ongoing business disputes between existing developments and the Clark Development Corporation.

Regardless, the task of con-

struction has begun at the Fontana Golf Club, where a 54-hole course is due to be built. The timeline for the construction of this project will likely stretch into the next millennium.

Meanwhile, work at True North, a 36-hole Nick Faldo designed course is progressing. However, the site is proving difficult due to the aftermath of the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo. There are drastic elevation changes and controlling the erosion of the lahar and ash from the volcano is a challenge. Further, construction delays have been caused by the minority Negritos claiming the area as ancestral land. However, all of the hard work will be worth it, since it will mean the rebirth of land that was turned into an environmental wasteland by volcanic ash. The first 18 holes are due to be completed in May of 1999.

The final project at Clark is the Hacienda Golf and Country Club where work has progressed the furthest. This despite ma-

chete-wielding locals who did their best to disrupt the initial land surveying. All 18 holes of the Seve Ballesteros course are due to open in December of 1998.

The Jose Maria Olazabal designed course will follow.

Further north in the mountain town of Baguio, development is also moving along. The area boasts a cool climate year round, and has become an annual summer spot for

Filipino families. The Fil-Estate Development Corporation along with other investors have a corner on the market in Baguio having purchased the rights to the most prized piece of property in the area — Camp John Hay, a former US military rest and recreation post.

They plan to build a full scale mountain resort on the 245-hectare property and are currently renovating the existing golf course. The Jack Nicklaus re-designed course is 35 percent finished and is slated for completion in the beginning of 1999.

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TURF WEB '98 ANNOUNCED

TAMPA, Fla. — The Florida Turfgrass Association has announced the dates of Turf Web '98 Conference and Show. It will be held at the Tampa Convention Center, Sept. 16-19. Casino Night, an awards dinner, president's salute and other events are planned.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE NOMINATIONS

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) is accepting nominations for the 1999 Distinguished Service Award. Nominations are due by Sept. 1 on official forms, available from the association by calling 800-472-7878. The award is presented to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the golf course superintendent's profession.



DELHI, NYSTA PARTNER

DELHI, N.Y. — The State University of New York — Delhi and the New York State Turfgrass Association (NYSTA), in cooperation with chapters of the Golf Course Superintendents Association, will present a golf course seminar with emphasis on new technology on Aug. 4. Turfgrass and equipment manager sessions will be included. To obtain a conference brochure or for more information, people may call NYSTA at 800-873-8873, 518-783-1229; fax 518-783-1258, or write NYSTA, P.O. Box 612, Latham, N.Y. 12110.

PA. STUDENTS GIVEN ALTERNATIVE

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — Penn State's two-year Golf Course Turfgrass Management Program has worked out an articulation agreement with Penn College of Technology which allows all graduates of the turf program to complete an associate degree. The agreement allows any certificate program graduate to continue studies at the Williamsport campus. By completing two semesters and required classes, the student would be awarded an associate degree in landscape technology with an emphasis in turfgrass management. People may contact Rich Weilminister at Penn College at 717-320-8038, or George Hamilton at Penn State at 814-865-3007.



Iowa golf/ag alliance influencing policy

By MARK LESLIE

DES MOINES, Iowa — Combining monetary clout with "a huge grassroots force," the Iowa Alliance of Environmental Concerns (IaAEC) and Agribusiness Association of Iowa (AAI) are proving that the turfgrass and agriculture industries can be a political power at the Statehouse here.

In this hot bed of agriculture, legislators have been known to cry "Uncle" when barraged by calls from IaAEC and AAI members, who hail



Members see group as model for others

from the moneyed agribusiness as well as the Iowa Golf Course Superintendents, Professional Lawn Care and Sod Producers associations and various other turf managers.

Efforts in various states around the country to affect legislation through lobbyists have been few and generally ineffective. Asked if the IaAEC-AAI

effort could serve as a model for the industry in other states, alliance Executive Secretary Mona Rae Bond replied simply: "Absolutely."

Fort Dodge Country Club superintendent Dennis Watters, the IaAEC president from 1995 to 1997, said: "I think you have to look at it on a state-by-state basis. We're in a hot bed of agriculture here."

In Iowa's case, he said, "We needed a vehicle to pull together everybody who had the same concerns: to ensure we

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GOLF AND THE ENVIRONMENT



Making choices: It's an environmental 'watershed'

By RON DODSON

Have you ever heard the reference to "watershed" as a critical point that changes a particular course of action, like a decision that created a turning point in history?

That use of watershed comes from its definition: "a ridge of high land dividing two areas that are drained by different river systems, also called 'water parting'." A watershed may also refer to the region that drains into a river, river system, or other body of water. So, the golf industry needs to take a look at watersheds for two reasons.

First, the industry needs to understand the environmental importance of watersheds in order to make good economic and environmental decisions about developing and managing the land.

Secondly, it has reached a critical point in making land-management decisions where it must choose between the status quo of golf course development and maintenance, and that of sustainable development and management practices

In order to understand how important watersheds are, however, we need to know a little about ecology. An ecosystem is a community (of plants, or animals, or even human beings) together with its environment of soils, waters and other elements on which the organisms depend for sur-

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N.C. State prof starts studies to help Asians

By MARK LESLIE

RALEIGH, N.C. — Citing the absence of scientific information on turfgrass pests in Asia, an American professor has undertaken what he hopes will be the first of many studies to help golf course superintendents in that region.

"If we can show some success with this research, on future projects I hope there will be people standing in line saying they will help," said Dr. Rick Brandenburg, a turf entomologist at North Carolina State University here. "The time commitment is actually very small."

The research is needed for many pests because what is known in the United States can not always be extrapolated for use in Asia, according to Brandenburg, who discovered this fact on a trip to Singapore this spring.

His pioneering program targets the number-one pest in many Asian countries: the mole cricket. Some 25 superintendents in Hong Kong, The Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, China and Indonesia are sending mole crickets from their courses to Brandenburg.



Rick Brandenburg

Continued on page 16

Matchmaker, matchmaker

Two GCSAA ex-presidents team in jobs search firm



Bruce Williams



Jerry Faubel

By MARK LESLIE

LOS ANGELES — Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Past President Bruce Williams has joined another former president, Jerry Faubel, adding a West Coast presence to Faubel's Executive Golf Search Inc.

Faubel first formed the "headhunting" company with famed course architect Robert Trent Jones Sr. and Michigan State University Prof. Ken Payne in the early 1990s. Payne died in 1994 and Jones has retired, leaving Faubel running the company solo.

"Over the years, I've been involved in helping a number of superintendents find jobs that would be a good fit for them," Williams said. "Retiring from the GCSAA board allowed me the opportunity to spend my spare time in other activities. This was the perfect match for me."

Saying that he and Payne had hoped Williams would join them after proceeding through the GCSAA chairs, Faubel added: "We thought Bruce would be an excellent partner. All of a sudden he moves [from Chicago] to the West Coast and

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Iowa alliance makes inroads at statehouse

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can keep using pesticides and fertilizers in the manner that law allows. Tying together the turf industry is one of our biggest accomplishments."

In the halls of the Legislature those accomplishments take on human proportions, affecting the everyday work life of IaAEC

and AAI members. In the just-completed session, for instance:

✓ Opposed by the alliance, the oil filter bill died. It would have required all oil filters in Iowa to be recycled.

✓ Opposed by the alliance, the Feed Lot Operations Bill failed as an attempt to allow

local governments to draft more-restrictive environmental protection laws than the state.

"There was language in that bill that regulates use of nitrogen," Bond said. "We wanted to be sure they didn't move into the commercial fertilizer field with their regulations, or if they did, that

it was something we could work with."

"We gave them a real good black eye in that bill," Watters said.

✓ Supported by the alliance, the Environmental Audit and Immunity Bill was passed. The bill encourages business owners to voluntarily conduct audits and submit their findings to the Department of Natural Resources. "In

exchange, they get privilege and immunity," Bond said. "If they have a problem, they have to develop a plan to take care of it. It's important to us as business owners that we do this voluntarily rather than it be regulated."

✓ Supported by the alliance, a drug-testing law passed. It allows private-sector employers to perform unannounced drug tests for all employees.

"We felt it was important, particularly if the employee is in a safety-sensitive position," Bond said.

The one bill the alliance lost on, she said, would have allowed an arbitration process when a seed farmer grows and sells a seed whose intellectual property rights are owned by a seed company.

From rallies at the Statehouse rotunda to phone calls to individual lawmakers, legislative dinners and Bond's one-on-one lobbying, the alliance is deeply involved in the Statehouse operations from its opening, the second week in January, to its closing, May 23. And Bond mails out bi-weekly updates to members, this year tracking 60 bills.

"We aren't anti-everything," said Watters. "We are concerned about the environment as much as anybody else. We just want to make sure both sides are heard."

"We feel strongly that we can address the issues from a scientific standpoint. They [opponents] throw around figures that are not fact. We are basing what we say and do on fact."

"Not all regulations are bad," said Bond. "Most are designed for protection of the public and the workers who use the product. Our goal is to make sure they don't go overboard."

She gave, as an example, a bill once submitted that would have mandated that all lawn-spray posters be printed in Spanish and English. The bill sponsor's district included a packing plant employing a number of Hispanics, but Hispanics and other aliens account for less than 2 percent of Iowa's population.

"We have universal signs that warn 'No Pets,' or 'No People.' It was a business cost that went beyond the needs of the public," Bond said. "Of course, that wouldn't be the case if we were in California because of the diversity of the population there."

Started in 1990 out of the continuing battle over "home rule" pre-emption in environmental regulations, IaAEC has gained a strong foothold in the corridors of the state capitol,

Continued on next page

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Iowa Alliance of Environmental Concerns urges, 'Avoid our mistakes'

By MARK LESLIE

DES MOINES, Iowa — Agriculture and turfgrass industries in other states, perhaps less potent than here, could learn from Iowa's mistakes as well as its success, said Mona Bond, executive secretary of the Iowa Alliance of Environmental Concerns (IaAEC).

• IaAEC gained a crucial boost to its momentum last fall when the Iowa golf course superintendents' and lawn-care professionals' associations both voted to donate a portion of each member's dues to the alliance. This made each association member also a member of the IaAEC.

"That's big kudos," Watters said. "We went from 30 golf courses that would donate \$65 every year to having 350 to 400 members just from the golf course side."

• "In an ideal world, you would go to the horticulture industry and bring in at least all the commercial entities under one umbrella because of the commonality on the two issues [pesticide and fertilizer use]," Bond said. "In Iowa perhaps the groundwork wasn't done well enough. That was their intent. But with personalities, etc., it didn't work. Now we work for the turf industry and in coalition with fruit and vegetable growers and others in the horticulture industry. If we have a long-term goal, it would be to unite those industries and have two lobbyists instead of one... It's tough to have a personal relationship with 150 legislators."

• The pest-control association does not belong to IaAEC, although the large manufacturers are members, individually, of the alliance.

• Watters noted that "there can be some hostility between the horticulture and agriculture sectors because the ag sector is monitored more by the federal government and we're monitored more by the state. From time to time that can be frustrating, to say the least."

• But, as it operates, the alli-

ance does not get involved in issues on which member groups don't all agree.

"Each of the groups can determine a specific agenda," Bond said. "For three or four years, when we wanted state regulation of pesticides and fertilizers, that was the number-one priority of the group. If, for instance,

'If we have a long-term goal, it would be to unite those [turf and horticulture] industries and have two lobbyists instead of one...'

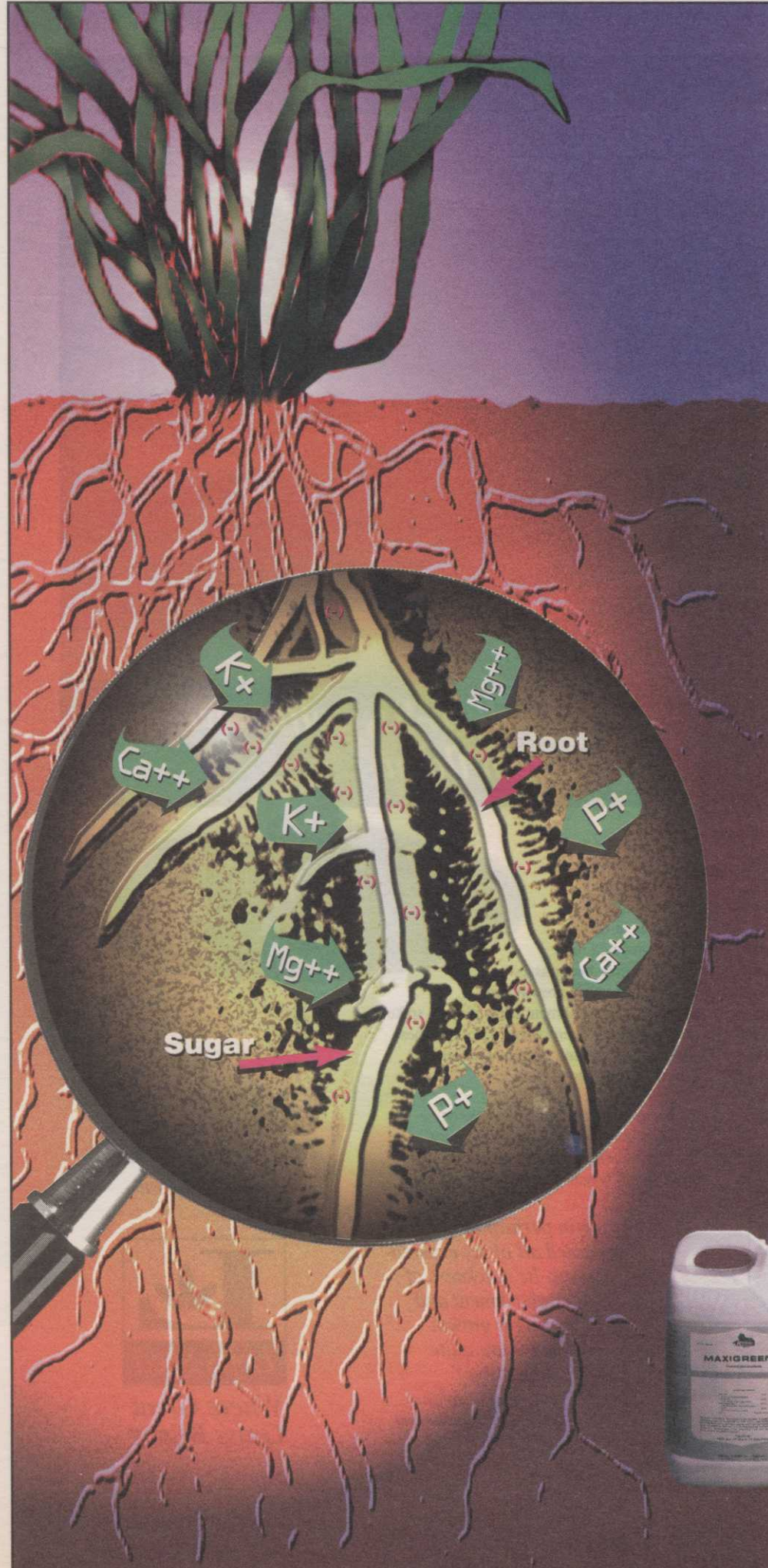
— Mona Bond

the superintendents have an issue they want that is not in conflict with other members, the alliance will lobby that issue."

Bond sends members material every week or two "so we know what's happening and if we need to contact our legislators," said Watters. "She'll let us know and tell us what points we have to hit.

I'm sure everyone in the country will face the same battles. And I think we [in Iowa] will fight the same battles in 10 years that we fight now. We will be fighting home rule, for instance.

"But the more you're informed on what your legislators are doing, the less likely someone will dump a new law on you."



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Iowan alliance

Continued from previous page

according to Watters. "When we call, they can put a name to a group," he said.

Bond recalled the alliance's impact on the home rule debate.

"When you tie together the alliance's 537 members and 1,700 agribusiness members, it becomes a grassroots ground swell," she said. "Legislators told us, 'Please don't get your members to call us again. We get the point.' It made a huge difference."

American scientist lends research aid to Asian supers

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Not only are Asian species of mole crickets mostly different from those in the United States, Brandenburg said, their species and life cycles probably vary considerably from Singapore to southern China and Hong Kong.

He intends to identify the species, monitor their life cycles,

and draft specific management programs for their control in about a year.

"It's kind of a riddle right now as to what's taking place," said Brandenburg, referring to one Asian species that appears to have almost continuous reproduction as opposed to the annual life cycle seen in the United States.

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"We do not see year-round reproduction in the U.S., even in southern Florida," he said. "I don't know if the report of year-round reproduction is perception or reality. Until we know that, it's difficult to target any control strategies to the most sus-

ceptible stages of development."

Mole crickets are most susceptible to control measures when they first hatch. "They are, more or less, susceptible to everything — pesticides, biological controls, etc.," Brandenburg said.

"But no matter how good the products to control the pests are,

it's difficult to use them to their maximum effectiveness when you don't understand the pest that well.

"We have to be able to target those life stages. If, indeed, we find out that in certain parts of Asia their eggs are being laid and hatched almost year-round, it's going to present quite a challenge to develop sound programs."

Brandenburg has provided the Asian superintendents with all the collection equipment — vials, preserving materials and self-addressed boxes. They will collect the mole crickets in June, ship them to North Carolina State in July, and repeat the procedure every other month.

"We'll have to sample for a whole year before we feel comfortable with what's taking place," Brandenburg said. "We have a lot of research information, but we don't know what we can apply to Asia from our findings here. The key to success is understanding the biology of the pest."

Asked if this kind of test can be performed on other pests, Brandenburg said: "It can be. In some situations, all we need is a little bit of preliminary information to give us guidance on what will work and what won't... You're going out on a real thin limb assuming that if something works here, it will work there. But if we can narrow that down, we've made a big step forward."

"The same would be true with other pest and disease problems. If there is a reasonable feel for environmental conditions, it can help with forecasting and help superintendents planning the timing of control measures. All those tools help superintendents do their job better and help them from being caught off-guard with problems. The soil pests are always the greatest challenge. They're hidden and catch you by surprise a lot of times."

Brandenburg said he hopes scientists in the United States who have contacts in Asia will work with superintendents there with similar research.

"One of the things I've been most impressed with is the Asian superintendents' zeal and desire for more information," he said. "They realize they are working in a vacuum in many areas. If we can find ways to facilitate getting them information, most of us in the industry would be happy to do so. We learn a lot more from this end, too. It gives us a more complete picture of these pests as to how they survive under different environmental conditions."

"Without a great deal of cost or effort from people on either end, it will help us develop a nice database."

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"L-93's grow-in performance surpassed all of my expectations. Its quickness of establishment and upright growth habit are quite impressive."

Steve Malikowski,
Golf Course Superintendent
The Sand Barrens
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L-93 vs. COMPETITION	
Overall Turfgrass Quality Ratings	
1996 NTEP Trials, Putting Greens	
L-93	6.6
Penn A-4	6.5
Providence	6.3
Penn G-6	6.2
Pennlinks	5.9
SR 1020	5.9
Regent	5.8
Pro/Cup	5.7
Penncross	5.4

Turfgrass Quality Ratings: 9 = Ideal Turf
LSD = 0.2
Page 8



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Commentary

Lending aid to Asians expands Americans' knowledge as well

Dr. RICK L. BRANDENBURG

The golf industry has grown by leaps and bounds in Asia during the past few years. Despite the recent economic downturn, many believe this slowdown is temporary and some areas seem to have been only modestly affected. As the industry matures there will be many research and educational programs necessary to better serve the needs of the superintendents working in these areas. At the same time there are significant and unique challenges in meeting these needs.

These challenges for educators in Asia include the diversity of conditions, cultivars, environment, pest problems, availability of equipment and technology, labor and other factors throughout this region.

A regional seminar thus assembles an audience with a magnitude of diversity rarely seen in the United States and a unique challenge to the instructor. Add to this the lack of available local research data and publications for many countries, and the instructor often finds that the best approach is to extrapolate information generated in the United States and fit it to the Asian continent.

In my 17 years as a professional entomologist helping solve insect problems, including those that attack turfgrass, I've been fortunate to travel to a number of countries. I've had the opportunity to teach seminars on integrated pest management in the Golf Asia conferences in Singapore in March 1997 and 1998.

The challenge of working with superintendents with various levels of training from a large number of Asian countries was both demanding and rewarding. The linkages and collaborations that develop are invaluable. But, more importantly, I left Singapore with a realistic appreciation of the challenges that face superintendents in this part of the world. There are two major issues that seem to be at the heart and soul of the superintendents needs in Asia:

- One is the unquenchable desire of the superintendents to get more information and have more educational opportunities. In this characteristic, they are like their counterparts in the States.
- The second is the need for sound research programs conducted under local conditions to help superintendents with the unique sets of problems they often face. This concern is much different from the U.S. situation in which superintendents benefit from a rather extensive research effort.

A key question to ask is, how do those involved in turfgrass research and education provide answers for the problems unique to the Asian golf industry? The logistics of doing business in Asia are different from seminars in the United States. The cost, time and energy in-

vested in developing programs in Asia are significant. However, despite the cost, there is definitely the need and interest, and even with the recent economic problems, this situation may only have modest long-term impact on the continued development of golf in Asia.

In effect, the need and demand for additional training will most likely continue to increase. The limited turfgrass research effort in Asia is comparative with the growth of the turf industry in the Southeastern United States. As the golf industry grew so rapidly over the past few decades, in many instances research was lacking. Only in recent years have some institutions been able to "catch up" to the industry with enhanced research efforts.

But this situation is of great importance, not just for the superintendents living and working in Asia, but for the future of the golf industry as a whole. As golf continues to grow, the problems of managing high-quality turf will grow along with it.

One example of a significant need for research input in my area of expertise is development of effective management strategies for mole crickets on golf courses. In some areas of Asia we are still uncertain as to the species that infest the turf and have limited information on their life cycle. Both of these pieces of information are critical for effective management.

In addition, the species and life cycles probably vary considerably from Singapore to southern China and Hong Kong. The challenges of addressing problems of turf management, or assisting in research programs in Asia are significant, but not necessarily insurmountable.

Our ability to adapt data from the United States and other countries to the Asian environment is often difficult and sometimes dangerous. The cost and time investment of U.S. scientists working collaboratively with Asian counterparts may be prohibitive. However, the needs and opportunities will remain until the issue is addressed.

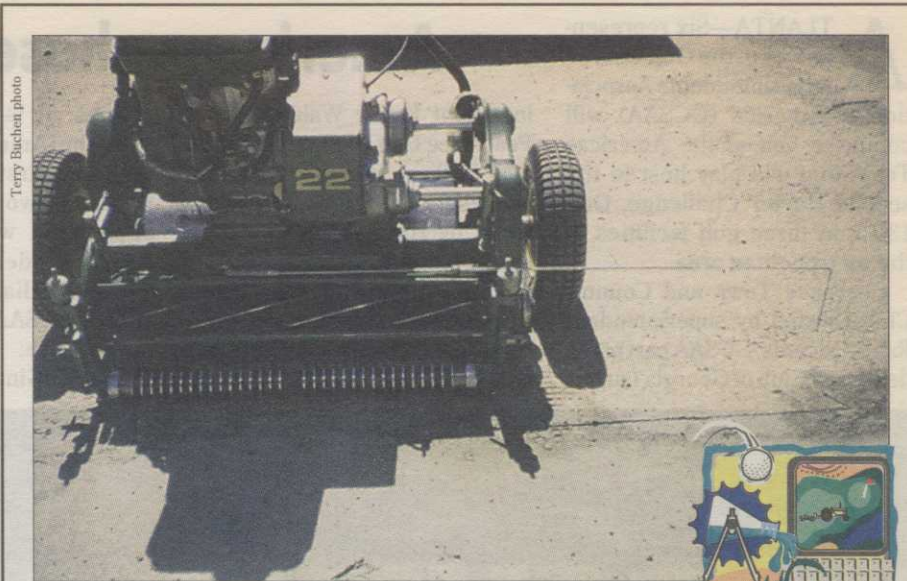
In an effort to assist in developing management strategies for mole crickets in Asia, which is one of the region's major pest problems, I'm initiating a program to receive samples of mole crickets from a number of superintendents in Asia for species identification and working out a plan to help them determine the life cycle of this pest in their region. This small effort will hopefully benefit the superintendents in this region and also help increase the scope of my own research program.

In addition, the contacts I've made result in numerous e-mail messages and letters requesting additional information. The interaction of U.S. turfgrass researchers provides Asian superintendents with additional contacts in the States.

Where do we go in the future to assist in the educational needs of superintendents in Asia? Do we build a longer-term effort to help meet some of the research

Continued on page 18

Dr. Rick L. Brandenburg is a turf entomologist at North Carolina State University.



There is no guessing about where the edge of the collar is with this unique equipment modification.



ON THE GREEN

Perfect collars the easy way

By TERRY BUCHEN

BRANSON, Mo. — Cary L. Tegtmeier, a certified golf course superintendent at Holiday Hills Resort & Golf Club here, is a perfectionist — a fact that's reflected in the adjustments he and his staff have to some of their maintenance equipment. Wanting to make the collar widths more consistent, Tegtmeier's crew installed a simple guide to make the mower operators' job easier and more efficient.

"We went to our local WalMart," Tegtmeier said, "and located the longest replacement automobile telescopic radio antenna available to mount on the front of each of our walk-behind greensmowers used to mow collars. Because we obviously mow our collars clockwise and counter-clockwise, we had to make the antenna so it could flip out on either side of the mower."

They accomplished this by adding a bolt to the replacement antenna. Because the antennas were not long enough, they manufactured a slide mechanism onto which the bolt attaches and slides back and forth. The slide mechanism has a notch on either side into which the bolt locks. When it locks, it attaches to the metal safety shield in front of the mower over the top of the reel.

The antennas telescope up to 30 inches wide, which is Holiday Hills' collar width. By bending the end of the antenna 90 degrees down towards the turf, they made it easier for mower operators to see the mowed edge.

"All in all, it cost about \$10 for each antenna and about an hour's labor making the slide mechanism," Tegtmeier said.

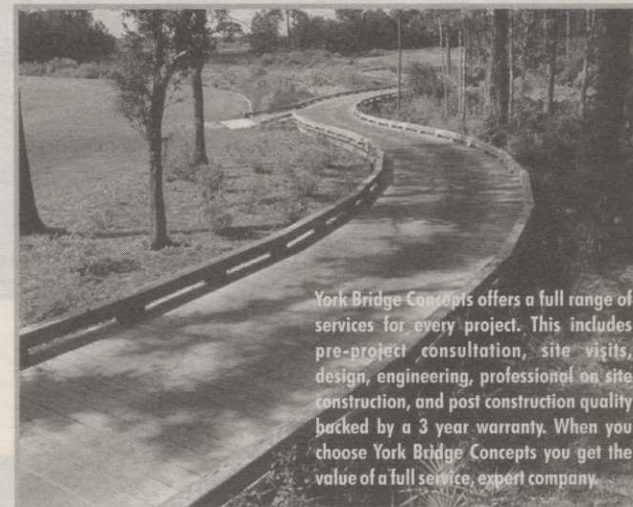
"We are very happy with our in-house idea and modification to our collar mowers as it is the little things that count, which makes a big impact in our entire operation," he added.



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Americans chosen for Hayter Cup

ATLANTA—Six representatives of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) will comprise half of the Americas Team that will play host to the second Hayter Challenge, Oct. 13-15, at three golf facilities in the metropolitan area.

Cherokee Town and Country Club (hosted by superintendent Randy Nichols, GCSAA past president; Golf Club of Georgia (superintendent Randy Waldron); and Peachtree Golf Club (superintendent William Shirley) will be the venues for the tournament sponsored by Hayter — a European equipment manufacturer.

The competition is designed to promote international relations and communications between superintendent organizations. It is held biennially, with the Americas Team winning the first match, 10-8, in England two years ago. The opposition was provided by superintendents from Europe and Australia.

The GCSAA representatives for 1998 are: Paul McGinnis, GCSAA immediate past president, Alta Mesa CC, Mesa, Ariz.

Dave Fearis, GCSAA vice president, Blue Hills CC, Kansas City, Mo.

Tommy Witt, GCSAA director, Stillwaters, Dadeville, Ala.

Ken Magnum, GCSAA director, Atlanta Athletic Club, Duluth, Ga.

Al Pondel, Deerfield (Ill.) Golf Course.

Jim Dusch, Grey Hawk Golf Club, Cumming, Ga.

Dusch in 1996 and Pondel earlier this year won the annual GCSAA Golf Championship. The remainder of the Americas Team, representing the Canadian Golf Superintendents Association and the Asociacion Argentina De Golf, include:

Doug Meyer, superintendent, Cedarbrook Golf & CC, St. Sophia, Quebec.

Dean Piller, superintendent, Cordova Bay Golf Course, Victoria, B.C.

Mike Baden, superintendent, Cranbrook Golf & Country Club, Cranbrook, B.C.

Sylvain Alarie, superintendent, Club de Golf St. Jerome Inc., Bellefeuille, Quebec

Ricardo de Udaeta, TCM Revista Technica, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Alejandro Young, CGC Las Praderas De Lugau, San Isidro, Argentina.

"The golf course management industry is truly international," said GCSAA President George Renault.

"We share tremendous amounts of information and experiences with our counterparts from around the globe. The participants will be competitive on the course, but the purpose is to foster relations and benefit the associations that each represent."

The opposing team, from the United Kingdom and Europe, includes:

Andy Sheehan, England; Nick Webber, Ireland; Derek Wilson, Scotland; Russell Lewis, Wales; Martin Stenberg, Sweden; Peter Frewin, Australia; Jorma Eriksson, Finland; Andreas Kauler, Germany; Eugenio Rezola, Spain; Pierre Ambrosin, Switzerland; Atle Revheim Hansen, Norway; and Remy Dorbeau, France.



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TURF INSECTICIDE

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Brandenburg comment

Continued from page 17
needs of this area?

While the time and effort to be invested in such a program is debatable, the needs of the superintendents are not. Directing programs at single educational seminars for countries or smaller regions allows development of more site-specific seminars, but greatly adds to the cost of operating such a program.

Whatever the plan, it should take advantage of the input of U.S. turfgrass educators and researchers who may be traveling to Asia and lending a sensitive and sympathetic ear to the need of the superintendents who daily meet the challenges of golf course management in Asia.



Maintenance at The Habitat at Valkaria encourages wildlife of all sorts.

The Habitat earns full certification

MALABAR, Fla. — The Habitat at Valkaria, owned by Brevard County and maintained by International Golf Maintenance (IGM), has earned full certification by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS).

"They're very good," said ACSS staff ecologist Joellen Zeh about IGM. "They have created a lot of habitat and protected a lot of habitat. They plan on creating a bald cypress wetland area ... and are putting a lot of effort into getting rid of exotic species and planting native vegetation on the property."

The Lakeland, Fla.-based IGM, she added, is "very committed to getting all the courses they manage to get certified."

To become fully certified, a property

must meet requirements in the areas of environmental planning, outreach and education, wildlife and habitat management, integrated pest management, water conservation and water-quality management.

"We try to create more habitat than already exists for a variety of native birds on the course," said The Habitat's superintendent Bob Marshall. "Along with the help of assistant superintendent Lyne Walker Page, we managed to achieve certification by limiting the use of chemicals and creating a safe environment for many of our endangered species of birds." These birds include the scrub jay, bald eagle and sand hill crane as well as cardinals and great blue herons.

practices, over-use of chemicals, poorly planned development, and soil erosion will not only affect the immediate area, but cause other significant problems throughout the entire length of the watershed.

So, what is the significance of watersheds for the golf industry? Environmentally, appropriately sited, well-designed, properly constructed and managed golf courses can have a major impact on maintaining the quality of a watershed — particularly in an urban or suburban area. In order to be both environmentally and economically sustainable, however, they must employ sustainable land-management practices and natural-resource conservation.

Understanding watersheds environmentally brings us to our "watershed" decision. The golf industry, and each of us personally, must decide to make a commitment to sustainability. We need to educate ourselves about the environment. For instance, we need to think about the impact of large, unsustainable building programs in a floodplain, or developments that adversely impact wetlands or significant wildlife habitats.

We need to think about our land-management techniques and water resources from a watershed perspective because it is the only economically and environmentally feasible way for any ecosystem to survive, including human ecosystems. It is up to each of us to ensure that we live, plan and develop today as if our future generations depend on it. They do.

Making choices

Continued from page 13

vival. The area or type of environment in which an organism or ecological community normally lives is habitat. Most of us probably understand the economic value of "terrestrial habitat," which includes grasslands, forests, croplands, and so on. But, how much do we know about "aquatic habitats" and their importance in the big environmental picture?

Aquatic systems include marshes, swamps, streams, lakes and man-made "impoundments" (like reservoirs). These systems have tremendous value in and of themselves. But, it's the relationship between the terrestrial and aquatic systems that provides stability and productivity to both the environment and economy.

Watersheds provide the foundation for understanding the relationship between the terrestrial and aquatic systems, as well as the environmental and economic systems. Watersheds are the natural drainage "networks" of a given area.

So, for example, the kind of agricultural activity, development, soil-conservation practices, and soil types for a large geographic area will affect the environment of a stream in which the watershed empties.

The entire watershed system is extremely important to the environment and the economy of all areas, including yours. Rich, organic materials in streams support living creatures that fill their slot in the food chain. Poor land-management

Gainesville designated a certified sanctuary

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Gainesville Country Club has achieved designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS). Gainesville Country Club is the 19th golf course in Florida and the 137th in the world to receive this honor.

"After reading all of the guidelines for certification, I realized we were already doing much of what was required for full certification," said Gainesville superintendent Buddy Keens. In 1997, when he

registered the golf course as a member of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System, he informed the membership of the project and several members came forward offering assistance.

"I was amazed at the amount of support I received from the members. I encourage all golf clubs to participate in this program," said Keens. The Gainesville Country Club Homeowner's Association was especially supportive, he explained, and donated a wooden sign announcing the certification.

Alaqua Lakes joins Audubon Sanctuary System

LONGWOOD, Fla. — The new Alaqua Lakes golf community here has been accepted as an Audubon International Signature Cooperative Sanctuary facility.

The community features the Tom Fazio-designed Alaqua Lakes Golf Course, which encompasses 170 acres of the property and which will open on Sept. 15. The 7,100-yard par-72 semi-private course will boast a teaching facility and golf academy.

"Alaqua Lakes is a pristine piece of property and we intend to make certain the golf course serves not only as a nurturing habitat for wildlife, birds and na-

tive or indigenous plants, but also as a role model for existing and future golf course developers in central Florida," said Michael Moser, club operations manager for the developer, Taylor Woodrow Communities.

"We're thrilled," said Tom Spence, land development manager for Taylor Woodrow. "The Audubon Signature Program is an important effort that promotes conservation measures which provide large-scale developers with a more environmentally sensitive approach to land management."

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\$10,000 Musser scholarship given to Penn State graduate student

SHARON CENTER, Ohio—The Musser International Turfgrass Foundation has named Andrew S. McNitt as the recipient of the 1998 Award of Excellence. The award includes a scholarship of \$10,000 towards the Pennsylvania State University student's doctoral studies.

The Musser Foundation is a

non-profit organization dedicated to supporting turfgrass education and research. The Award of Excellence acknowledges outstanding scholars seeking their PhDs in turfgrass sciences.

McNitt earned a



Andrew S. McNitt

bachelor of science degree in horticulture at Penn State. He also received a master of science degree in agronomy and is working toward completion of his doctorate in turfgrass soil science at Pennsylvania State University.

His thesis deals with the use of inorganic inclusion elements as amendments for sand-based soils and is titled, "Evaluation of Fiber-Amended Soil as an Athletic Field Root Zone."

In high school, McNitt was a National Honor Society member, co-captain of the football team and

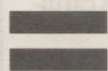
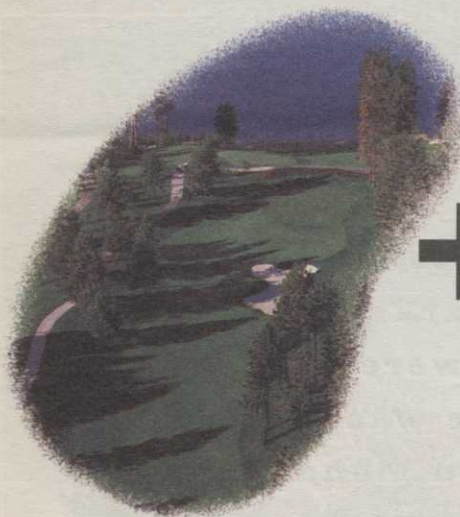
varsity wrestler. He has also received the Watson Graduate Fellowship Award, been recognized as the Outstanding Graduate Student in Turfgrass by the Sports Turf Managers' Association, and received the Harry W. Skinner Scholarship as an undergraduate.

McNitt is a member of the American Society of Agronomy, Soil Science Society of America, honor society Phi Kappa Phi and other academic and public service organizations. He is the author of five peer-reviewed articles and numerous other articles for various research journals, extension bulletins and popular journals.

The Musser International Turfgrass Foundation is named for Professor H. Burton Musser, who was a turfgrass pioneer at Pennsylvania State University for four decades.

Over the past 10 years, the Musser Foundation has awarded \$89,000 to graduate students.

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The Green Seal marks Putter as a world premium turfgrass variety.

Finlen presented Mendenhall Award

The Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents Association (HAGCSA) has presented Pat Finlen the Chester H. Mendenhall Award and Jeff Elmer the Superintendent of the Year Award.

The Mendenhall Award was established in 1983 to honor an HAGCSA member "who has devoted extensive time and effort into the promotion of golf, the art of greens keeping and other related fields."

The superintendent at Lake Quivira Country Club, Finlen has spent a tremendous amount of time the last two years on the Heart of America Conference and Show. For the past few years he has taken the lead in organizing the HAGCSA Christmas Party. He has served on many committees throughout the years.

The Superintendent of the Year Award was established in 1970 to honor an HAGCSA member who has demonstrated dedication and outstanding service to his profession.

Elmer, from Oakwood Country Club, completed the rebuilding of five green complexes, two tee boxes and a driving range tee. He also completed several drainage projects, irrigation upgrades and installations, and numerous other course improvements.

In addition, Elmer was editor and publisher of *Heartbeat*, HAGCSA's official publication, for the fourth straight year. He also served on the Public Relations Committee in 1997. He has been an active member of the HAGCSA since 1988.

North Shore CC short-game complex: exercise in innovation, evaluation

(Editor's note: Anyone interested in data, or in viewing the test site at North Shore Country Club at 1340 Glenview Rd. in Glenview, Ill., is welcome. They should contact superintendent Dan Dinelli at 847-724-4963.

"That's what it's there for," Dinelli said, "for people who are interested to come and evaluate for themselves the different cultivars and root-zone mixes.")

By DAN DINELLI
and TOM VOIGT

GLENVIEW, Ill. — The United States Golf Association (USGA), the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), and the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) combined resources to initiate a national research project to evaluate turfgrass varieties grown on USGA rootzones and maintained by host golf course facilities as in-play green surfaces.

Funding was made available to construct practice putting greens at 16 different golf courses across the United States. All of these experimental greens were constructed to USGA specifications. Northern locations sowed bentgrass varieties, southern locations Bermudagrass varieties, and in transition-zone climates both species were planted. Monitoring and evaluation will continue for at least five years, with annual reports being submitted to the NTEP who will issue annual reports of the results.

In conjunction with the University of Illinois, North Shore Country Club was selected as one of the sites for this unique study. In the summer of 1997 the Offic-

Dan Dinelli is a certified golf course superintendent at North Shore Country Club in Glenview, Ill., and Tom Voigt is an Extension turfgrass specialist at the University of Illinois.



Root-zone mix cells at for turfgrass testing at North Shore Country Club. All the work is done by hand, ensuring no cross-contamination. The barriers, from pea gravel to the top, are permanent.

ers and Governors of North Shore Country Club (NSCC), led by Mr. Van Salmans, Greens Chairperson approved the construction of a short-game practice facility to augment the USGA putting green.

SHORT-GAME PRACTICE FACILITY

The short-game practice facility consists of a 7,200 square foot (sq. ft.) putting green, a 14,098 sq. ft. creeping bentgrass fairway measuring 55 yards long, 28 yards wide, and two greenside bunkers. It is understood by the membership of NSCC this is a functional complex with several research objectives.

General purposes of the short-game practice facility include:

1) Maintain a functional short-game practice facility, and putting green to the standards expected at North Shore Country Club, while recognizing the research potential of such a site. Regular maintenance on the USGA green will include periodic straight sand topdressing, and

daily mowing at 120-130 thousandths of an inch. The fairway will be mowed at one half of an inch, and will undergo regular mowing, aerification and established maintenance practices.

2) Monitor the performance of 21 different creeping bentgrass varieties for putting green use on USGA rootzone profiles, including 18 NTEP entries, and two blends.

3) Monitor the performance of a creeping bentgrass blend (L-93/SR-1119) grown on 20 amended putting green rootzones within the context of a USGA rootzone profile.

4) Monitor the impacts of forced gas exchange in the putting green rootzone and turf canopy utilizing the SubAir system.

5) Monitor 13 bentgrass varieties at fairway height, grown on a yard-waste compost amended site.

6) Compare and contrast organic soil

amendments to native soil for fairway use.

7) Evaluate a bluegrass blend for use on green surrounds

The major emphasis of the practice facility is to observe turfgrass performance, integrating cultivars and rootzone amendments with management techniques. Field observations, along with detailed monitoring will help develop a better understanding of turfgrass science and ecology. Information gained will further IPM strategies, and foster a holistic philosophy of turfgrass management towards maintaining high-quality playing conditions.

Disease susceptibility, nutrient requirements, infiltration rates, moisture stress, and moisture retention will be noted. Possible areas of interest and potential study include but not limited to: segregation with genetic dominance in varieties, color, texture, density, thatching tendency, recuperative potential, wear tolerance, heat and cold tolerance, ball roll speed, growth habit, localized dry spot severity, nematode assay (beneficial and plant parasitic), resiliency for desired ball bounce, microbial ecology, turfgrass-microbe interactions, stability of soil amendments, dynamics of percolation rates over time, fluctuations of soil and turf canopy gases (i.e. oxygen, carbon dioxide and methane), relative soil temperatures, Poa annua encroachment, inoculation potential of beneficial microorganisms, winter hardiness, fate of rootzone amendments over time, and root mass.

PUTTING GREEN

The putting green site is unique. This will be a functional green receiving approach shots, and being used by the members for putting. This activity will produce ball marks, wear, and compaction, and offer daily stresses seen on in-play

Continued on page 22

Matchmaker, matchmaker

Continued from page 13

it is working out better yet."

Williams, who had been at Bob-O'Link in Chicago for 21 years, took over the reins as superintendent of Los Angeles Country Club in the spring of 1997. Faubel is the long-time superintendent at Saginaw (Mich.) Country Club. The contacts the two men have within the golf industry are substantial.

Faubel said Executive Golf Search works with course operators, owners, general managers and search committee chairmen to define the superintendent's position at their course, then help find the individuals who best fill their needs.

"So many times they don't really know what [that definition] is," Faubel said. "We look at their needs and thoroughly discuss them and show them the importance of a well-qualified superintendent. Then we set up interviews with the employer and candidate. They negotiate the salary and other terms between themselves."

The company accepts resumes from superintendents for its database. "We now have about 3,000 resumes, but that's over a number of years," Faubel said. "Some of these people are happy where they are, but if the right job comes along we could possibly put them in a better situation."

Faubel said the Executive Golf Search work is "a good fit" with his superintendent position since he's less busy during the wintertime, when the great majority of job searching is done.

Asked if he has seen a change in what clubs are requiring in superintendents, Faubel said: "Yes, they have to know how to grow grass, but they also have to know so many more of the ancillary things. Somebody who is computer illiterate today is going to have a tough time finding a job with a major course. Superintendents at the larger clubs have to be in tune with how to grow turf, but they also probably have one or two assistants who have just as much book knowledge as they do. So, it comes down to personnel management, being able to meet the membership and talk with people on their level. That's more important today than ever before: communication, communication."

"Different courses have multifaceted needs," Williams added. "Some really are looking for working superintendents and some for superintendents who are strong administrators. One of the positive things about [EGS] is being able to match the right individual with the golf course to make the proper fit."

"There is nothing better than putting two parties together and making it an excellent association for both," Faubel said.

"I'm excited to work with Jerry," Williams said. "What we want in the long run is to put good golf course superintendents at facilities that match their skill levels and have win-win situations."

Williams can be reached at 2501 Pine Ave., Manhattan Beach, Calif. 90266; 310-546-2530; email: brucewms@ix.netcom.com.

Faubel can be reached at 699 Westchester, Saganaw, Mich. 48603; 517-797-0677; email: gfaubel@concentric.net.

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North Shore CC's tests expected to be revealing

Continued from page 21
greens at many golf courses. Comparison On one green, under consistent management and similar environmental conditions, field evaluations of bentgrass varieties and amended root-zone mixes can be made. The effects of the SubAir system can be documented.

UNIQUE CLIMATIC ZONE

The test facility is located in USDA growing zone 5B. This represents the Chicago region, a unique region that is prone to weather patterns influenced by Lake Michigan.

BENTGRASS BLENDS

Blends of turfgrass varieties are frequently thought of as advantageous, offering genetic diversity for adaptation potential. Blends of bentgrass with similar growth requirements and growth characteristics like texture, growth habit, and color will be grown and evaluated relative to their respective varieties in pure stands.

PLOT SIZE

On the putting green each variety was planted in a random order, replicated three times in five 5-by-10-foot plots. Plots this large offer better sampling and ability to measure ball roll speeds via modified or standard Stimpmeter readings.

GREEN ROOT-ZONE EVALUATION

Relative performance of creeping bentgrass varieties grown on two popular root zones, native soil 'push-up' type root zones, and USGA sand-based root zones within the same climatic environment and under similar management practices can be made. At North Shore Country Club several bentgrass variety trials already exist, maintained to putting green standards in 'push-up' style root-zone profiles, with an amended upper 3-inch layer of high sand content via frequent sand topdressing. In total there are 17,852 square feet of 'push-up' green, consisting of 26 varieties of creeping bent, one velvet bentgrass, seven blends of bentgrass, and one creeping species of *Poa annua* var. *reptans* (Hausskn.) Timm. The new USGA green has many of the same varieties.

USGA ROOT-ZONE TRIAL

A list of 20 different root-zone mixes were used in the construction of USGA-profile putting-green plots. More detailed information on amendments is available. All amendments, unless noted, were professionally blended off site at Feltes Sand and Gravel. With one exception, the same USGA approved sand was used in all mixes. For ease of construction and to minimize cross contamination, a non-replicated plot design was con-

structed, plot size 14-by-15 feet each.

Random sampling from these large plots may be performed for statistical analysis. All 20 root zones were permanently divided with an 80-mil high-density polyethylene, extending from the top of the pea gravel bed to the surface creating a 12-

inch deep root zone. For identification 1/2-inch rebar was permanently placed at each corner of a plot. The entire green was GPS mapped with differential. GPS is a satellite positioning system that offers accuracy to within 18 inches, and permanent location. All plots were seeded with a 50/50 blend of L-93 and SR-

1119 creeping bentgrass sown at 2 lbs. / 1000 sq. ft.

EVALUATION OF ROOT ZONES

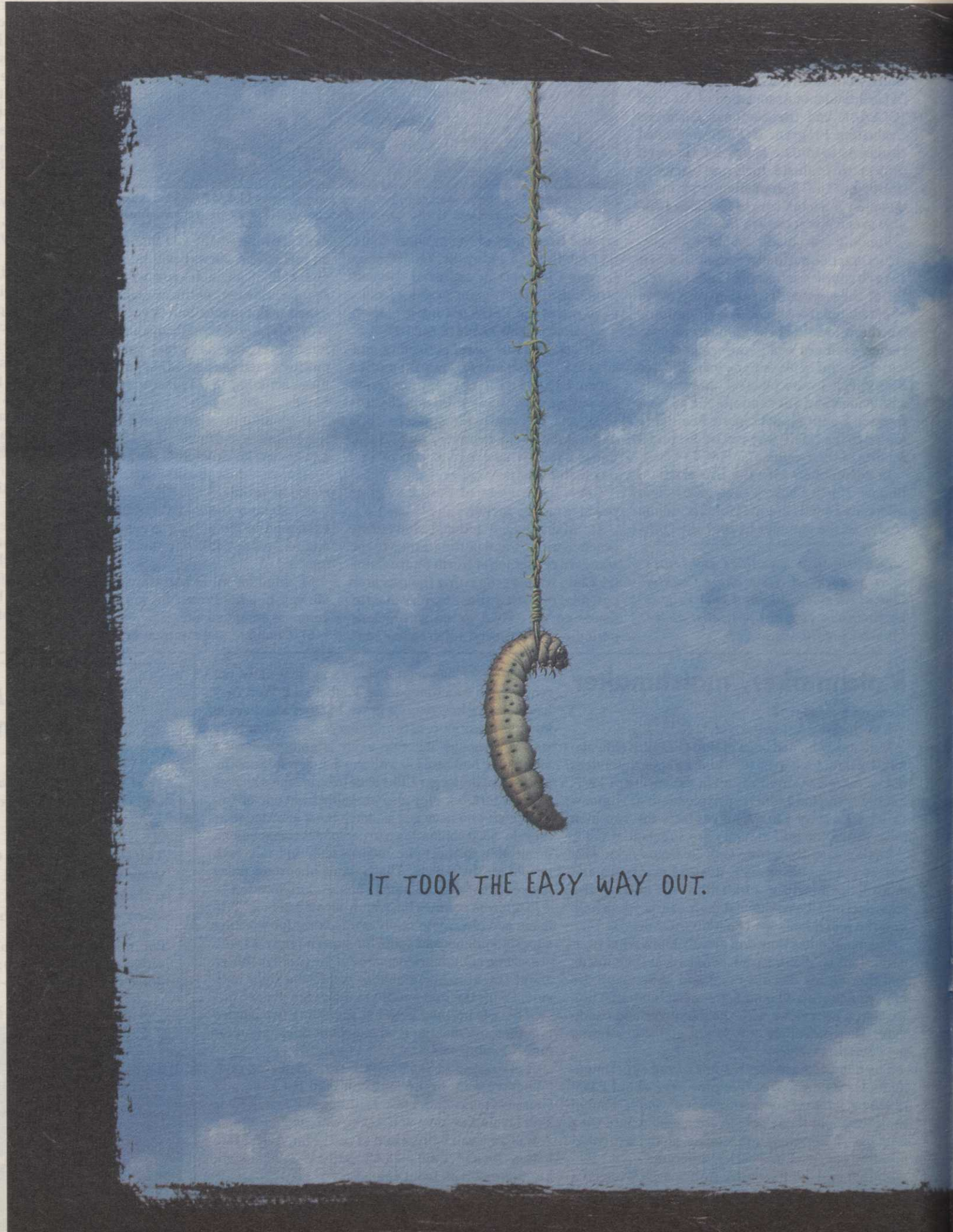
Amended root-zone plots were seeded on September 13, 1998. These plots were rated 14 days after seeding. Results are shown below as a percentage of cover. The blend of L-93 and SR-1119 covered quickly and shows good vigor.

SUBAIR SYSTEM

The putting green was de-

signed and built with four distinct gentle slopes. This configuration allows better acceptance of approach shots from four different areas around the green. These contours also provide four distinct surface and subsurface drainage patterns. Two separate subsurface drainage systems were installed. One system drains a single quadrant of approximately 1500 square

Continued on next page



IT TOOK THE EASY WAY OUT.

New York sets turf show

SYRACUSE, N.Y.—The New York State Turfgrass Association (NYSTA), in cooperation with Cornell University, will hold its annual Turf and Grounds Exposition, Nov. 10-13, at the OnCenter here.

The conference will feature business and technical sessions, with speakers from across the country. A trade show with more than 350 exhibitors will bring new technology and innovative ideas to an estimated 2,000 attendees.

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Jim Tunney,

former NFL referee whose officiating career ran from 1960-1991. He is the only NFL referee assigned consecutive Super Bowl games (1977 and 1978), and has officiated at the Fog Bowl, The Catch and the Ice Bow. Tunney also served as a world team tennis umpire and linesman from 1977-1979.

To obtain conference information, program, registration form, or exhibitor trade show material, people may call NYSTA at 800-873-8873, 518-783-1229, fax 518-783-1258, e-mail nysta@capital.net, or write NYSTA, P.O. Box 612, Latham, N.Y. 12110.

Penn Turf Council awards scholarships

BELLEFONTE, Penn.—The Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council has awarded scholarships to students majoring in the four-year Turfgrass Management Program at Penn State. The seven \$2,000 scholarships were provided based on high academic achievements in turfgrass management. The recipients are Brian A. Bachman of Tripoli;

Ryan F. Davidheiser of Gilbertsville; John E. Kaminski of Upper Marlboro, Md.; Reid H. Mitchell of Jarrettsville, Md.; Bradley S. Park of Pittsburgh; Heather A. Shoener of Pine Grove; and Darryl T. Sparta of McAfee, N.J. The scholarships were presented by Dr. Thomas Watschke, professor of turfgrass science at Penn State.

North Shore test plots

Continued from previous page

feet. The companion system which drains the remaining area of the green was designed to accommodate the SubAir system.

A continuous permanent barrier of 45-mil polypropylene was installed to separate these drainage fields. This barrier extends from the clay base of the green to the surface of the green. This separation allows for the study of the impacts of forced gas exchange by SubAir through the drainage system of the putting green.

The SubAir operates in either vacuum or pressure mode, pulling, or pushing atmospheric air through the root zone. Excess water, carbon dioxide, methane, hydrogen sulfide, and other gases can be purged.

Increased concentrations of oxygen can be obtained within the root zone to encourage the growth of microbial populations, and assist in gas exchange with plant roots. The effect of air exchange on the temperature, and gas concentration in the verdure may also be documented.

FAIRWAY

The fairway was constructed to test the performance of 13 varieties of creeping bentgrass and six different root-zone amendments. Plots were randomly selected and are 5-by-5-foot, including three replications. All varieties were seeded at 25 grams per plot, or 2.2 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft.

Six plots were established to test rootzone amendments). Each plot was approximately 2300 sq. ft. Amendments were applied to native soil and disked into the top 4 to 6 inches. A 50/50 blend of L-93/SR-1119 was seeded at 2 lbs./1000 sq. ft.

BLUEGRASS VARIETIES

In addition to bentgrass varieties a bluegrass blend (is being evaluated for use on green surrounds. Evaluation will include turfgrass quality, low mowing (1 inch) tolerance, color, disease resistance, wear tolerance and recuperative ability. The blend was sown at 1.5 lbs./1000 sq. ft.

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The architect and superintendent course restoration team

By TERRY BUCHEN

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. — Many superintendents throughout North America are restoring their courses' masterpieces back to the original design features, or are giving these venues a facelift, to restore their brilliance and luster.

Working with their favorite golf course architects and design associates forms a common bond between individuals with common goals and love of the golf course landscape.

There are many "menu item"-type options of how the restoration process originates

— from the major undertaking of preparing a master plan to the minor but equally important aspect of rebuilding a sand or grass bunker or green, or adding a new teeing ground. The architect restores the masterpiece, while the superintendent and his or her staff sometimes do the actual

restoration work at the same time they maintain the course to the best conditioning possible.

Doing the proper background research is one of the many pleasurable aspects of the restoration process — from hopefully locating all original architectural design and

topographical drawings and engineering drainage blueprints, to finding as many old and valuable files on everything possible that has transpired over the years.

Another possible in-depth research agenda is locating historical photographs that are still in good condition. Architects and superintendents alike benefit from historical photographs that show the original design criteria, because they help the design objectives during the restoration process. Historical photographs are usually faded and not as clear and sharp if they were taken in color, but if they were shot in black and white they better stand the test of time and can be restored.

Golf course architects recommend that all photographs should be taken in black and white, using the best-quality film and processing available. This is widely accomplished after a restoration is complete, or immediately after a new course is constructed. Taking black-and-white 35-mm photographs for all aspects of historical preservation will provide quality for many generations to enjoy.

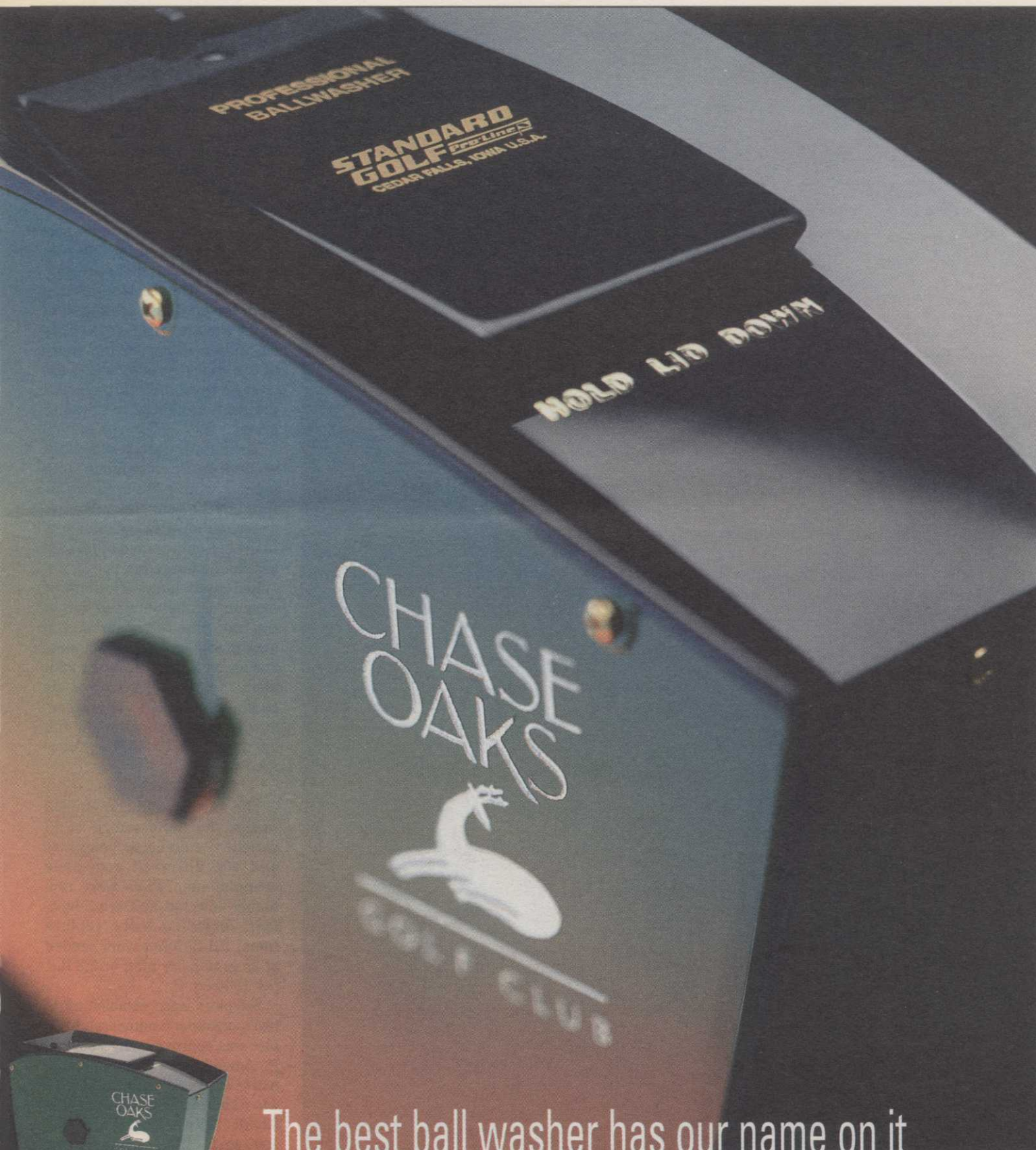
Another rewarding research idea is probing sand bunkers or former bunkers to see where the sand delineation's outlines used to be, and probing greens sites to discover exactly where the defining edges of the putting surface were.

Improving on existing design features is a rewarding challenge, where the architect and superintendent make recommendations for sometimes an even better course than it once was.

I always like to hear success stories that evolve during restoration. Architects and superintendents can make formal presentations to course officials, using two side-by-side slide projectors, showing the original black-and-white photographs and the transformed versions at the same time. It is a perfect "before-and-after" scenario.

The use of computer-enhanced photo manipulation, depicting what there is now compared to what it will look like after restoration, is now available and gaining great success.

Yet another presentation used by designers and superintendents is putting old black-and-



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GCSAA begins standards initiative

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) is in the initial stages of a membership standards initiative, an organization-wide research, development and communications effort to advance the superintendent profession.

Last year, GCSAA formed a membership standards resource group comprised of 13 association members to provide direction to the initiative, which focuses on the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to meet the needs of the golf course superintendent profession. Two consulting firms—SRI International (formerly Stanford Research Institute) and Mullen, a communications firm, have been retained to conduct ongoing research. SRI is examining membership educational needs and learning preferences. Mullen is analyzing the current perceptions of golf course superintendents and developing communications plans and programs.

The most recent development of the standards initiative has been the creation of GCSAA's Learning Systems Innovation and Design Department. Under the leadership of former Education Director Deena Amont, this unit will concern itself with education development and delivery issues such as new curricula, introducing distance learning programs, Web-based training and creating faculty internship programs, among other concepts.

"The timing was right to create a team to focus squarely on the future educational needs of our members," said GCSAA Chief Executive Officer Stephen F. Mona. "We now are better positioned than ever to move forward to continue GCSAA's mission to advance the profession through education."

The GCSAA Education Department will continue to focus on program development, delivery and quality improvement of all existing education program areas such as conference education, seminars, the Etonic Superintendent Leadership Series and correspondence courses. Hannes Combest, formerly GCSAA education manager, has assumed leadership of the education department as senior manager of education and will also serve as staff liaison to the GCSAA Education Committee.

"You can think of the new department as an education- and information-focused research and development department," Amont said. "Our role will be to stay ahead of what's new and what's working in the world of continuing education; and to see what will work for GCSAA members."

Savvy Super

Continued from previous page

white photos on VHS videotape along with identical, current black-and-white shots taken from the identical spot. These are also shown with two different side-by-side television monitors.

Hopefully, every golf course architect and superintendent will have the pleasure of working together as part of this important team, for a fun, personally rewarding experience. It is a great benefit that all golfers will enjoy as well as for the future of the game of golf.

GOLF COURSE NEWS



'Going vertical' saves major storage room

By TERRY BUCHEN

Boca Raton, Fla. — Spare cutting units and verticut units for five-plex fairway mowers are usually stored on the floor of the mechanic's shop area, taking up valuable storage space. Not at Woodfield Country Club here, where equipment manager Andy Gmelin has built a vertical "storage rack."

Five spare cutting units and five verticut units can be stored in this rack, in a very small footprint.

The two vertical, three-inch-square, hollow, tubular steel beams are approximately 6 feet high. Each has two legs welded on the bottom which holds the storage rack vertically in place. On each side, there are 1-inch-square, hollow, tubular steel brackets that hold the cutting units and verticut units in place, said Gmelin.

He said the brackets are 12 inches long and spaced 17 inches apart, across from each other, while the brackets are 10 inches vertically apart. They are welded in



This vertical storage rack makes more efficient use of space at Woodfield Country Club.

place at an approximate 15-degree angle to hold the units in place."

"Andy and I originally talked about the possibility that wheels could be added on the bottom of the storage rack, with locking devices so it would not move," said superintendent Mike Hummel. "We are still considering that."

The storage rack cost about \$75 for the two sizes of tubular steel. Working around his normal chores, Gmelin built the rack in one day, cutting the brackets with a chop saw and welding everything together. He used an aerosol spray can of glossy black paint.

"We are very pleased with our storage rack system that Andy built," Hummel said. "It is saving us a lot of valuable floor space and is quite sturdy, but not too heavy and pretty neat to look at."

GCSAA makes 1st Tee commitment

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has established its commitment to the World Golf Foundation's The First Tee Initiative.

"Junior golf is a subject near and dear to the heart of GCSAA and its members," GCSAA President George Renault said. "The vast majority of our members first experienced the game at an early age, playing and/or working at a golf facility. The First Tee Initiative combines the resources of the nation's golf governing bodies to provide access to the sport for those who otherwise may not have had the opportunity."

Among the activities GCSAA has committed to include:

1. Provide GCSAA members as role models for minority programs.
2. Provide support for The First Tee through GCSAA's internal and external media outlets.
3. Develop an operations manual for maintenance of First Tee Facilities.
4. Solicit in-kind donations from industry partners.
5. Support the environmental edu-

cation of youth in conjunction with First Tee facilities.

6. Facilitate chapter support for maintenance programs for First Tee facilities.

7. Coordinate with chapters to provide labor from local golf course maintenance facilities.

8. Conduct turfgrass/environmental research at First Tee facilities.

9. Develop a charity even around GCSAA's annual 800-member Golf Championship, presented in partnership with The Toro Co.

The primary contribution of participants in The First Tee initiative will be provision of expertise and consulting advice, land-planning and other services to reduce the total cost of each project.

President George Bush is the honorary chairman, while the oversight committee includes the PGA Tour, U.S. Golf Association, Augusta National Golf Club, PGA of America and the LPGA. Joining GCSAA among the organizations on the advisory committee are the National Golf Foundation, American Society of Golf Course Architects, National Golf Course Owners Association, Tiger Woods Foundation, American Junior Golf Association, National Minority Golf Foundation and National Association of Junior Golfers.

TEXANS RAISE \$3,500

More than 80 members participated to raise more than \$3,500 at the North Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association's annual East vs. West Ryder Cup Challenge. The event, which benefits charity, was held at Twin Creeks Golf Club, with superintendents from the Dallas area competing against superintendents from Ft. Worth area. The West prevailed. Proceeds were donated to the Lindy Miller Foundation for Junior Golf, which brings golf to Ft. Worth's inner-city children.

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Beard's Turfax now available

By MARK LESLIE

CHELSEA, Mich. — There should be a saying, "University professors don't retire, they just stop going to class."

In Dr. James B. Beard's case, when he "retired" from Texas A&M, he just increased his workload in other areas. Consultant. Conference speaker. Writer/editor.

Subscribers to his *Turfax* are thankful Beard is continuing — and improving upon — his "international newsletter about current developments in turfgrass." Publisher Skip DeWall of Ann Arbor Press here, who published Beard and Toshikazu Tani's *Color Atlas of Turfgrass Diseases*, talked Beard into making the newsletter available to the general public — not just his clients.

So, with a little help from his friends, Beard has complied. Those friends are worthy of mention:

- Contributing Editors Dr. Peter H. Dernoeden of the University of Maryland, Dr. Daniel A. Potter of the University of Kentucky and Dr. Fred Yelverton of North Carolina State University; and

- Advisory Committee members Gary Grigg of Royal Poinciana Golf Club in North Naples, Fla., Bruce Williams of Los Angeles Country Club, Dan Quast of Medinah Country Club in Chicago, Don Tolson of Stock Farm in Hamilton, Mont., and Gordon Witteveen of Toronto's Board of Trade Country Club.

This, folks, is an all-star cast. Two editions of the eight-page *Turfax* have been published. One of my copies in hand includes articles by Potter on managing earthworm problems; by Dernoeden stating that summer bentgrass decline complex may be more physiological than pathological; by Yelverton spelling out the potential problems that may occur with continuous use of the same herbicide; and by Beard on the cultural changes demanded by fast putting surfaces.

Ann Arbor Press will mail a free copy of the latest issue to interested people, who may call 800-858-5299. The yearly subscription rate is \$69.95.

Potter reveals earthworm 'fix' in *Turfax* feature article

By DR. DANIEL POTTER

Earthworms have been called the "intestines of the earth" because of their importance in breaking down plant litter, recycling nutrients and enriching the topsoil. But on golf fairways, an abundance of earthworms can be too much of a good thing.

Generally, you'll have much

healthier turfgrass where earthworms are abundant. Their burrowing reduces soil compaction and improves air and water infiltration. Earthworm tunnels may account for two-thirds of the total pore space in soils. Earthworms enrich the soil with their fecal matter, called castings. Their feeding breaks down

thatch while mixing topsoil into the thatch layer, enhancing its suitability for turfgrass growth. Thus, earthworms perform a function much like mechanical topdressing. Their activity encourages microbes that further decompose thatch and enhance soil fertility. Conservation of earthworms is important in lawns

and other turf sites where thatch is a concern.

However, on golf courses, mud mounds abound where earthworms have pushed up castings through close-mowed grass. Golf cars and mower tires compact these mounds, smothering patches of grass. Golfers' drives

Continued on next page

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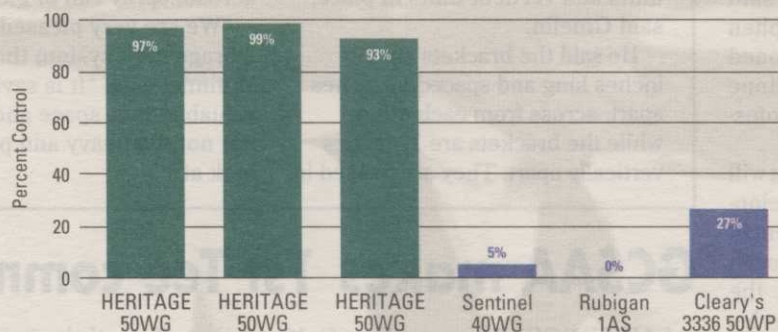
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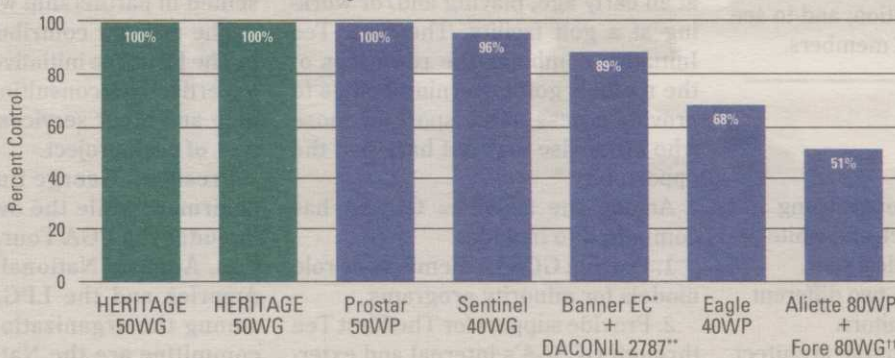
Oz./1,000 sq. ft.	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.25	1.5	2.0
Number of Applications	2	2	1	1	2	2
Application Interval (days)	14	14	—	—	14	14
Final Reading	17 DAA 2	17 DAA 2	31 DAA 1	31 DAA 1	17 DAA 2	17 DAA 2

Dr. Don Scott, Purdue University, 1995

¹ Also isolated from plots: 2 species *Rhizoctonia*; 3 species *Pythium*; and several species *Curvularia*.

US 67-95-P354

Brown Patch (*Rhizoctonia solani*) on Colonial Bentgrass



Oz./1,000 sq. ft.	0.4	0.2	3.0	0.25	1.0* 4.0**	0.6	4.0† 8.0††
Number of Applications	2	4	2	2	4	4	4
Application Interval (days)	28	14	21	28	14	14	14
Final Reading	12 DAA 2	8 DAA 4	19 DAA 2	12 DAA 2	8 DAA 4	8 DAA 4	8 DAA 4

Dr. Pat Sanders, Penn State University, 1994

US 66-94-P356

Baidy hired for Oneida Nation courses

VERONA, N.Y. — Joe Baidy, president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America in 1995-96 and superintendent of Acadia Country Club near Cleveland for the past 12 years, has been named director of golf courses and grounds at the



Joe Baidy

Oneida Nation's Turning Stone Casino Resort here.

Baidy is overseeing the 18-hole Shenandoah Golf Course, a nine-hole par-3 layout, teaching facility and driving range which will open next season.

A certified golf course super-

intendent, Baidy brings 30 years of experience, including eight years at Oak Hill Country Club in Rochester and nine at Fox Chapel Golf Club in Pittsburgh.

AURORA, Colo. — The city of Aurora Golf Division has named **Mike Osley** as the head superintendent of the Murphy Creek Course,



Mike Osley

which is scheduled to begin construction this summer.

Osley has 7-1/2 years experience as a superintendent in Tallahassee, Fla.

Designed by Ken Kavanaugh, Murphy Creek will be an 18-

hole prairie links-style course with wide corridors and rolling terrain.

Earthworm 'fix'

Continued from previous page

may stop short on worm-softened fairways, and golf balls may be muddied where they land. Mower blades are dulled, and mowers return to the maintenance complex caked with mud.

Over the past decade, my research team ran several multiyear field tests to evaluate the effects of turfgrass pesticides on earthworms.

My original intent was to help turf managers avoid killing earthworms, but I've since learned there are two sides to this issue. Indeed, most of the interest in our earthworm research has been from superintendents who were more concerned with suppressing earthworms. Here are some options for managing this problem:

Strictly speaking, turf managers in the United States cannot apply pesticides for earthworm control because no chemicals are labeled for such use. However, several products will kill a portion of the earthworms as a non-target effect when they are applied for control of insects or diseases listed on their labels.

According to our research, the insecticides bendiocarb (Turcam), carbaryl (Sevin), ethoprop (Mocap), or fonofos (Crusade) are toxic to earthworms. Any of these products, applied at rates labeled for grub control and watered in (1/2 to 1 inch of irrigation), generally will give an 85- to 95-percent reduction of earthworms.

The fungicide thiophanate-methyl (Cleary's 3336) provided similar suppression. The impact is greatest if the application occurs when the soil is moist and the earthworms are active near the surface.

One application often will reduce casting activity for 2 months or longer, not from residual toxicity, but because the earthworms are slow to reproduce or recolonize treated areas.

In England, carbaryl (Twister), and the fungicides carbendazim (Turfclear) and gamma HCH and thiophanate-methyl (CastAway Plus) are registered for "control of earthworm casts."

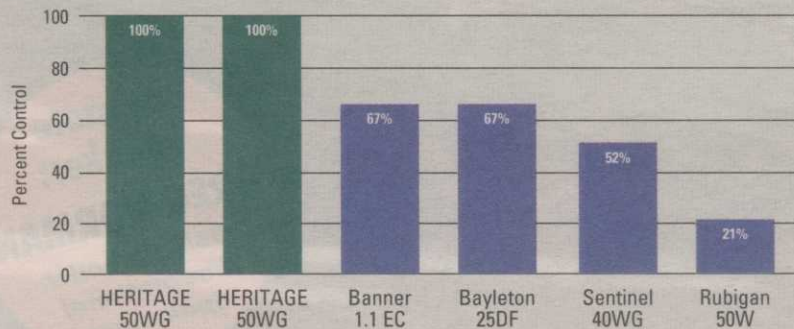
These products are not labeled for worm control in the United States. Availability and registration of products in other countries varies.

Most earthworm species are intolerant of acidic soils. Application of aluminum sulfate or sulfur to lower the soil pH to 5.8 or less may reduce their population.

Reprinted with permission from Turfax, March-April 1998 edition.



Summer Patch (*Magnaporthe poae*) on Kentucky Bluegrass

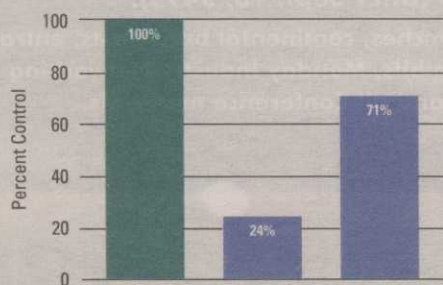


	HERITAGE 50WG	HERITAGE 50WG	Banner 1.1 EC	Bayleton 25DF	Sentinel 40WG	Rubigan 50W
Oz./1,000 sq. ft.	0.4	0.2	4.0	4.0	0.33	0.75
Number of Applications	3	4	3	3	3	3
Application Interval (days)	28	14	28	28	28	28
Final Reading	19 DAA 3	33 DAA 4	19 DAA 3	19 DAA 3	19 DAA 3	19 DAA 3

Dr. Bruce Clarke, Cooke College, Rutgers University, 1994

US 66-94-P362

Pythium Blight (*Pythium aphanidermatum*) on Perennial Ryegrass



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Oz./1,000 sq. ft.	0.4	4.0* 2.0**	6.0† 4.0††
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Dr. John Watkins, University of Nebraska, 1996

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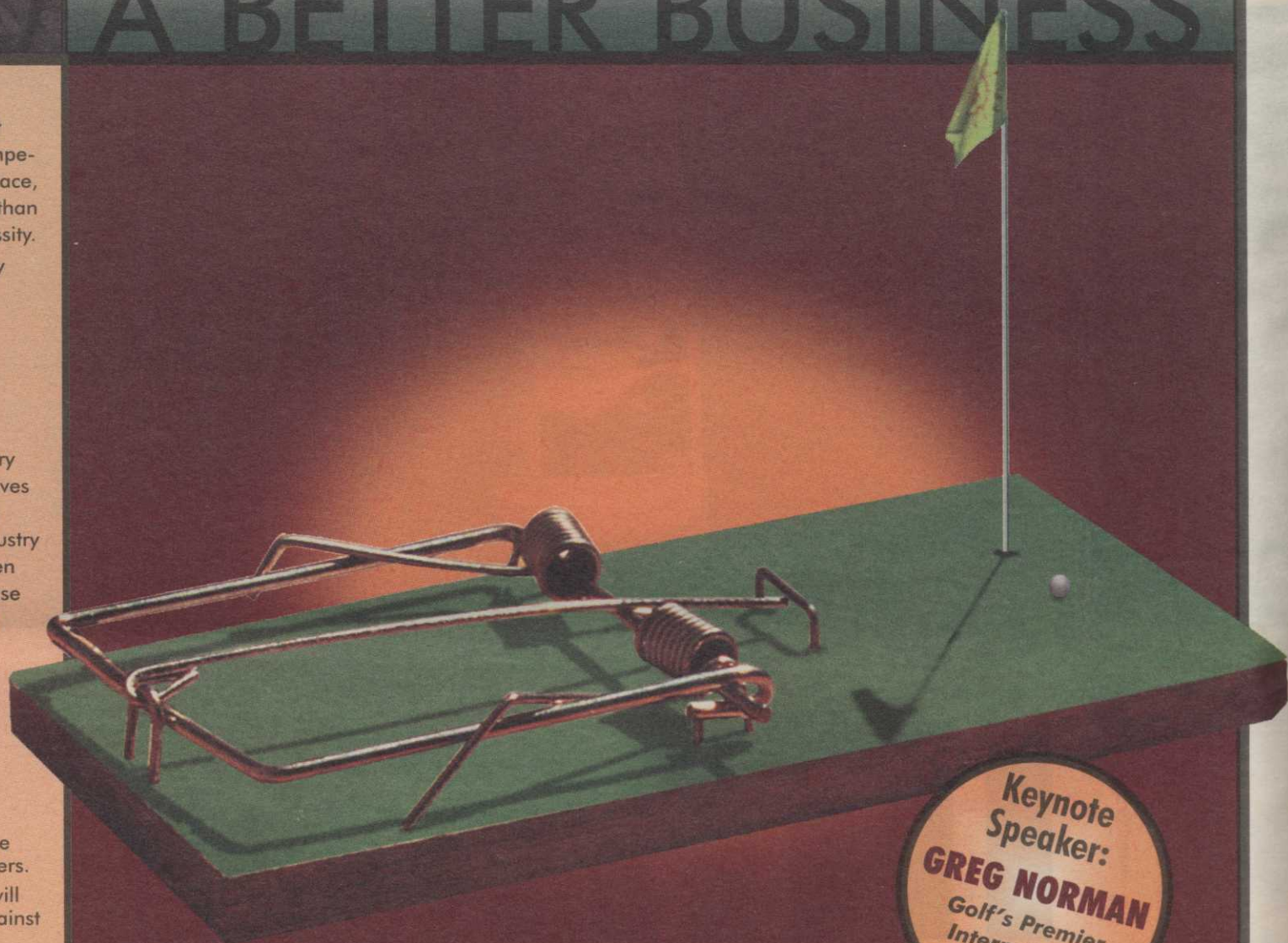
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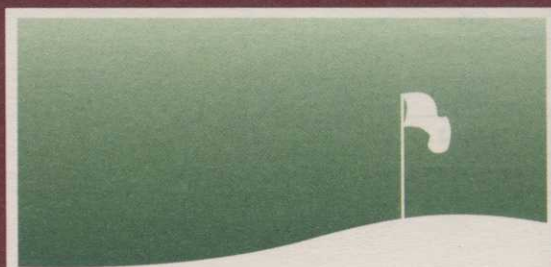
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BRIEFS

**GERRISH HIRED AS DESIGN ASSOCIATE**

UXBRIDGE, Mass. — Tim Gerrish has joined the golf course architecture firm of Cornish, Silva and Mungam (CSM) as a full-time design associate. Over the past two years, Gerrish has worked part-time for CSM partner Geoffrey Cornish while earning his master's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst; he graduated in May. A native of Lisbon Falls, Maine, Gerrish earned his undergraduate degree in landscape horticulture from the University of Maine in 1991.

INC. CITES ENVIROTECH GROWTH

ENID, Okla.—Envirotech Services, Inc., an environmental consulting firm serving the golf course industry, based here, has been named one of the fastest-growing businesses in the nation by *Inc.* magazine. Less than 7 years old, Envirotech Services has experienced a 700-percent increase in sales from 1992 to 1996. This has placed the company 385th on the annual profile of America's fastest-growing privately held companies.

PALMER PROMOTES MINCHEW, LARSEN

ORLANDO, Fla.—Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay, chief operating officer of Palmer Course Design, have named Harrison Minchew director of design services and Erik Larsen director of sales. Both men are vice presidents and senior course designers for the firm. Minchew and Larsen are both regular members of the American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) and the Urban Land Institute.



Harrison Minchew

ROBBINS HIRES WESTMORELAND

CARY, N.Y. — Robbins & Associates International has hired Jeffrey Westmoreland as design associate. He had previously worked part-time with the firm while completing his master's degree in landscape architecture at Virginia Tech. He earned a bachelor's degree in turfgrass management from North Carolina State University. Upon graduation, he was employed with Jerry Pate's design firm in Pensacola, Fla., as a course designer and was in charge of its turfgrass program.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

Beauty from ashes

By MARK LESLIE

SEAFORD, Del. — Fortuitous. That is the operative word here, where Seaford Golf and Country Club opened a second nine holes on May 2. Fortuitous in terms of time and money.

Time: Because Seaford G&CC members had debated adding a second nine to their venerable nine for 15 years, and the government just happened to demand that the neighboring DuPont Corp. nylon plant dispose of acres of a byproduct, coal ash, that it had piled up over 30 years of operation.

Money: Because Seaford G&CC paid a mere \$800,000 for a brand spanking new nine-hole course, while DuPont paid the remaining \$1.2 million and still saved a couple million compared to the cost of disposing of the coal ash in another fashion.

"There is a 25-acre pocket of nylon



DuPont's manufacturing plant is visible in the background on the Seaford Golf and Country Club's par-4, 400-yard 3rd hole.

buried on the site 8 to 10 feet deep," explained golf course architect Rich Mandell of Whole in One Design Group in Durham, N.C., and Easton, Md. "They didn't know what to do with it.

"It was a wasteland. The ash was in a big pile in a field. They had three

holding ponds where it would go directly from the factory, sit for awhile, then be taken out and stored adjacent to the pond."

When the government mandate came down, the plan for a golf course seemed heaven-sent — for both sides. Origin-

Continued on page 33



The par-4 4th hole at Long Island Golf and Country Club's North Course in Guangdong Province, China, is an example of J. Michael Poellot's recent work abroad.

Q & A Poellot's return to America stresses attention to detail

J. Michael Poellot's name is on golf courses from the People's Republic of China (the country's first private country club, Beijing Golf Club) to Japan and Thailand. But the 1966 Iowa State University landscape architecture graduate has done little in America since leaving a partnership with Dick Phelps and Brad Benz in Colorado 10 years ago. That is, until now. A former vice president of the Robert Trent Jones II Group, heading Jones' overseas division, Poellot and JMP Golf Design Group partners Mark Hollinger, Bob Moore and Brian Costello are concentrating heavily on the United States, with a half dozen projects in the works.

Golf Course News: You've undertaken a new relationship with Ernie Els. Can you tell us about it?

J. Michael Poellot: This initial opportunity with Ernie Els was a desire on the part of Kemper Sports and their local partner doing a project in the Washington, D.C., area. It so happened that Ernie had been looking for an architect he could be associated with whose work he would be confident in. We had just had an interview with Ernie at Winged Foot at the

PGA Tournament last fall and we seemed to be on the same page in terms of our philosophy of golf. It was Ernie's intent that he would not get involved, as some other professionals had, in doing a tremendous number of projects. He wanted a limited amount and to do them well and to be intimately involved.

I found him to be very thoughtful, and he listened well, which opened a great insight into our compatibility. We were both able to listen as opposed to dictate, which will result in a better relationship and a better product. We have met a number of times since then. We hiked the whole property in D.C. for hours trying to identify green and tee sites and let our imaginations run wild and see what the site would yield in terms of a great golf experience.

Subsequently, we have gotten together to talk further about bunkering strategy and other aspects of the playability of the course.

GCN: How involved will Els be in your work?

JMP: At this moment the Washington project is the only one we are working on.

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Rapid assessment, national survey on Audubon agenda

By MARK LESLIE

SELKIRK, N.Y. — A nationwide survey on environmental issues and a book enabling "rapid environmental assessment" of property for development appear on the horizon for Audubon International (AI) and may jump-start stalled attempts to build Audubon Golf Courses.

The Audubon courses, thought last fall to be on the verge of reality, still await that moment. Offered land from various private and public sources around the country, AI last fall formed the Audubon International Golf and the Environment Land Trust to develop courses that would also serve as environmental research and demonstration centers. Last September, with \$300 million to \$500 million in pledges from its principles, The Golf Co. was formed to partner with AI and identify and build Audubon Golf Courses.

The two parties expected to have two or three contracts in hand by the end of the year.

Admitting a long "period of frustration" finding the right property and circumstances, AI President Ron Dodson is still waiting for the first.

"We need the first one to be a home run," he said, "but more than that: We need people to know these will be Golf and the Environment 'research facilities' that happen to be golf courses, and they will be built in locations where we can test environmental issues in long-term research."

To that end, Dr. Larry Woolbright, dean of science at Si-

Continued on page 34

Q&A: Poellot

Continued from page 29

We are discussing a project in the Caribbean. We will work together if the deal is right and there is an interest from both sides in doing it.

GCN: Are your design philosophies in sync?

JMP: Having won the U.S. Open at Congressional last year, Ernie said he would like to see a

course more like the old Donald Ross designs and others of that era — obviously done with contemporary technology but which reflect a history and that looks like it has been there a long, long time. That is in concert with our philosophy. We tend not to be gimmicky or trite, or to come up with something faddish ... but rather try to do something that has classic proportions.

Let's say we're in the business

of creating the classics of tomorrow. We're not just here to satisfy some developer's need to sell real estate next week or next month, but to create a legacy long after the real estate has been sold.

GCN: Has your design philosophy evolved into "classical"?

JMP: I like to think our philosophy is one of emulation with innovation. That's all anybody can do, is emulate. It's all predicated on our experiences — the

same as if we were writing a book, or a song. We are gifted with a certain amount of discernment to be able to pick and choose what's good in an appropriate situation. Emulate does not mean imitate. Emulate by definition is to strive to equal or exceed. Imitate is a repetitive effort. I can only talk about this from my experience of having worked in Asia for such a long time. What I'm trying to do here

domestically is translate that experience into the new venue of the United States.

GCN: Explain what you mean by that.

JMP: I think every architect in the world would love to have an unlimited budget. Look at Tom Fazio's Shadow Creek [in Las Vegas, Nev]. Even though we've done projects in Asia that make that look low-budget by comparison, my goal is to prove it's possible to build a masterpiece for \$5 million. That's not only where the market is, it's what golf needs in order to be a viable and enjoyable pastime.

With 50 million Baby Boomers ready to retire in the next 10 years, you have a very discerning group of golfers who know the difference between golf and good golf and great golf. And they are going to demand affordable golf as well.

The fact that we've done some of the most expensive courses in the world with unlimited budgets, puts us in a very unique position because we know precisely what can be accomplished on a \$5 million budget, and we're very capable of doing that. Understanding the game itself is important. And a lot of it has to do with our landscape architecture background. Through creative shaping and integration of the principles of landscape architecture into golf course design, it can be a great success.

It's an art form. It has all those things great works of art have: balance, texture, color, form, etc. It is still extremely possible to create a landmark, unique, attention-getting golf course without getting trendy or gimmicky.

GCN: You believe there is too much gimmickry in the last 10 years?

JMP: I think it was architects trying to outdo each other and come up with something new. When you get right down to it, there is nothing really that new that you can do in golf. Golf has certain parameters and boundaries. I honestly don't think anything unique has happened in course design in the last 10 to 20 years. Using railroad ties is not unique. Sleepers were used on Scottish courses 50 years ago. It was not a new innovation, but it was a new application here in the United States. It was an attention-getting element.

GCN: Do you have a Poellot design trademark?

JMP: No, no physical differentiation. What I'm bringing to this market is a new level of service and attention to detail that we perfected in Asia. They demand detail there. It goes beyond that. The work we've done in Asia in the last 25 years has emphasized the integrity and importance of the golf course as

Continued on next page

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GOLF COURSE NEWS

Q&A: Poellot

Continued from previous page

an end in itself. Here in the United States, the emphasis seems to have been that golf is one of any number of amenities required to sell real estate. The more houses you could line up on the fairways, the better. But in Asia, it was golf for golf's sake.

GCN: That has turned around the last several years in the U.S.

JMP: Yes, I think it has — for a couple reasons. There seems to be a subtle shift away from cookie-cutter planning, where you lined up the homes along the fairways. Now they are creating courses that are intended to be great playing experiences in their own right. If that necessitates building a core golf course, then so be it.

Also, I think there is an upsurge in daily-fee courses being built, often with no associated real estate. There has to be a happy balance between the two.

GCN: What is your particular strength?

JMP: It's a commitment to the project. It's being available. We're not playing the "name" game where you're buying a marquee name to put on your sweater. We're selling a product. And the only way to create that product is to be there and do it. That's another shift in our approach. We are not going to do a lot of projects. We will do a very limited, special number in key market areas of the United States.

We are already identifying what those key markets are.

I'm a bit overwhelmed by the interest in our firm. We are being highly selective. When a client comes to us, I want to be sure we're not opening another one up 5 miles down the road that will be competing with him.

We have a high-profile project in New York State, one in the D.C. metro area, one in Florida on a magnificent site on the water, another in the Caribbean and a couple here in California that we're excited about.

That's it right now. We want to get these gems polished and open for people to see and experience.

GCN: With your projects having been in such faraway places, has it been difficult to get back into the American marketplace, seemingly without skipping a beat?

JMP: Golf is an international game. Even though much of my work has been in Asia and the Pacific Rim, I know an owner of one of our Japanese courses has close contacts with Augusta National; he has been here to play and his American friends have traveled there. Golf writers here in the States have seen those courses. A lot of the well-known golf photographers have shot them. The word got out on the street about what we have done. People sooner or later recognize that.

Sometimes when one door closes, another opens. We've been blessed that that

Continued on page 38

Poellot's U.S. jobs: excitement mounts

By MARK LESLIE

CARMEL, Calif. — The Golf Trail at Santa Lucia here, 10 minutes from the gates of Pebble Beach, will be "a landmark project for the U.S. — a prototype of how to do it right," according to golf course architect J. Michael Poellot.

Here sits 20,000 acres of "the most pristine California landscape you could imagine — like you envision California a couple hundred years ago," Poellot said. "You ride through the gates of this Spanish Land Grant property with big hacienda. It's untouched.

"I call it Jurassic Park. There are bobcats, eagles and wild turkeys running all over the place."

Poellot's firm, JMP Golf Design Group, has been working with Sandy Tatum on the design for several years. But the developer, Rancho San Carlos Partnership, is bringing in Tom Fazio as the "signature architect" to "polish the gem," he said.

A joint venture between Olympus Real Estate Corp. of Dallas and Westbrook Partners LLC of New York, Rancho San Carlos Partnership hopes to begin construction this year. Of the 20,000 acres, 18,000 will be a permanent open-space nature preserve which the owners will fund in perpetuity. Very

limited housing will be built on site.

"It is the most well-documented, well-conceived, environmentally perfect as any golf course project can be, in a tough situation," Poellot said. "They have spent \$120 million to \$130 million just in land acquisition and permitting costs.

Poellot's intricate double-drainage system and environmentally sound design principles have already won a National Merit Award from the American Society of Landscape Architects. Water running down hillsides is intercepted, piped under the fairways and released on the other side, while irrigation and rain water is collected and contained within a second drainage system, and stored in a lake to be reused on the course.

Other JMP projects stateside are:

- Wild Hawk in Sacramento will hold a grand opening in August. It is a daily-fee course on very flat, barren agricultural land, and Poellot hailed it as "a good example of how to build a great golf course with a reasonable budget."

- Sterling Forest in Tuxedo, N.Y., situated on 2,000 acres, is in planning while the town updates its general plan. The property used to contain

Continued on page 38

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First Tee breaks ground — literally

Continued from page 1

Officials of Chesterfield County, which borders Richmond to the south, voted 4-1 on May 27 to accept the Richmond First Tee Foundation's proposal to build an 18-hole golf course designed with youths in mind, along with a practice range and three-hole "tot" course. It will occupy 140 of the park's 360 acres and will be leased for 20 years to the foundation, with two successive 10-year renewals.

Chesterfield County's approval of the project follows an attempt by Richmond First Tee Foundation to build the facility within city limits. Organized by Richmond native Fred Tattersall, the foundation hoped to open by Memorial Day 1999 and be the nation's initial First Tee. But when talks with city officials bogged down and threatened that early opening, Chesterfield officials came forward.

"Frankly, we've been through such a battle to work a public-private partnership that we've lost a little interest in whether we're first in the country," said Tattersall, an investment counselor and money fund manager. "We just want to build it."

"What sold this course is that it's designed to teach youths how to play and it will be good for senior golf," said Chesterfield County Parks and Recreation Department Director Mike Golden. "I like the idea it's in line with the other youth sports facilities we have. A kid can go and play golf, soccer, football, baseball, or tennis. It might be one, one day and one the next. Or a family can go and one or two play golf, while the rest are at soccer practice. It's not uncommon for that to happen in other ways now."

Iron Bridge Park, Tattersall said, "is everything you would hope for in a park."

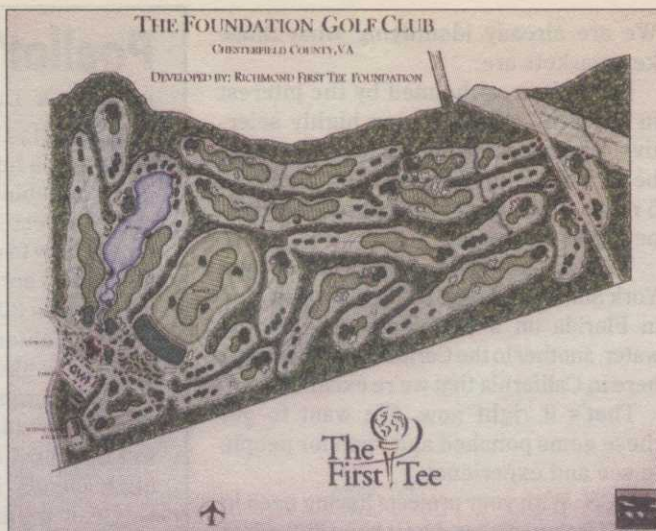
Besides that, it is located in seemingly a perfect position. Last year 440,000 people came to the park during the year. More than 1,100 youths live in the neighborhoods next to the park. There are 11 elementary schools, eight middle schools and four high schools within a 7-mile radius. And reportedly there are 4,000 people living in the poverty level in Chesterfield County.

"We think we've tapped into a great location," Tattersall said. "It's not an issue of moving to the wealthy suburbs of Richmond."

Richmond, meanwhile, was listed in July's *Golf Digest* as the worst of 309 small, medium and large U.S. cities for golfers because of its lack of facilities.

"It's going to be a spectacular project," said Tod Leiweke, executive director of the national First Tee program. "We have a deeply committed group there who have fought through an arduous public process, they're doing it for the right reasons and they're well organized."

Leiweke could not say whether Richmond's will be the first "from-scratch" facility to open. "We have 11 facilities that are extremely active," he said. "They are a mixed bag — a couple existing facilities to expand, a couple that are smaller, etc."



The layout of Chesterfield County's First Tee course, designed by Lester George of Colonial Design.

The Richmond First Tee Foundation has been working with local YMCA, Police Athletic League and Boys and Girls clubs, who have assured they will handle transportation to Iron Gate Park. It is 1-1/2 miles from a major YMCA summer camp that brings in a number of inner-city children and children at risk.

"The hope from the Y's standpoint and ours," Tattersall said, "is to offer the kids another alternative in the summertime."

Golden added that the county Parks and Recreation Department will schedule golf classes and outings at The First Tee facility through the school system.

Location was one of the sticking points with Richmond officials, who preferred one site over the property the foundation and PGA Tour wanted.

The foundation, which is handling the development without any cost to the county, may still partner with Richmond for a city facility, Tattersall said.

"We are still talking to the city and plan to have a site within the city," he said. "It obviously will not be done as quickly as had we been able to agree on matters earlier in the year. But, all along we thought multiple sites were preferable. Once you ask people to go further than 10 miles, it becomes not only a public-transportation issue, but a time issue."

When the Iron Park facility opens — around next Memorial Day — the foundation hopes to have announced the improvements to either an existing facility or other site in the city, Tattersall said.

Meanwhile, one reason to be the first facility developed from inception to be a First Tee layout, is that it can better tap into celebrities and public relations supplied by the PGA Tour, PGA of America, World Golf Foundation, Ladies PGA, U.S. Golf Association and others who are supporting The First Tee program.

A number of communities, existing courses and individuals are involved in refurbishing existing facilities. Here in Richmond, Tattersall and the foundation have raised \$2.5 million from private individuals — \$2 million to build the course and \$500,000 to operate the program for five years, after which it hopefully will be self-sustaining.

Others are contributing as well. Among them:

- course architect Lester George of Colonial Design in Richmond is designing the complex;
- golf course builder Quality Grassing & Services of Lithia, Fla., will bill the foundation as normal, then return the profits as a donation;
- Timmons Engineering, a local firm, is donating engineering services;
- Williamsburg (Va.) Environmental Group, Inc., is consulting on environmental issues at no charge;
- local lawyer John Cogbill is handling legal issues *gratis*;
- PGA Tour player and broadcaster Robert Wrenn of Richmond is donating time to give clinics and as a consultant.
- Mike Snyder of Photogrammetric Data Services in Charlotte, N.C., is providing aerial mapping and contour mapping services for free.

There was opposition to the proposal, leading to marathon county board meetings — one lasting until 1:30 a.m. and another to 4:45 a.m. Some 75 citizens spoke at the last session, half of them opposing the facility. Golden said mountain biking trails that will be displaced by The First Tee will be replaced with new trails to be built elsewhere. To neighbors who objected, he said that if the First Tee were not built, the land would be turned to lighted sports fields in the years ahead.

The First Tee and BLM sign management pact

WASHINGTON — Patrick Shea, director of the Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management, and Tim Finchem, commissioner of the PGA Tour and chairman of the World Golf Foundation, have signed a memorandum of understanding pledging to provide more opportunities for minorities and young people to explore careers in the golf industry, with an emphasis on environmental issues associated with the sport.

"This agreement will help bring one of the most wholesome, character-building, outdoor recreation activities to a more diverse America in a fashion that is environmentally friendly," said Shea.

"This partnership between the World Golf Foundation and the BLM, with its world-class outdoor recreation program, is extremely important to our efforts to identify locations for the development of First Tee facilities," Finchem said. "The BLM has been a strong supporter of golf and shares The First Tee's vision of creating golf facilities that provide affordable access for everyone, with a special emphasis on youth and minorities."

The memorandum of understanding supports First Tee efforts that are an integral part of a national golf initiative supported by a host of organizations, including the PGA Tour, LPGA, PGA of America, Augusta National Golf Club and The Tiger Woods Foundation. The First Tee is also designed to help make the game of golf more accessible to youth, particularly those from inner cities.

The BLM historically is one of the most golf-friendly federal agencies. Over the last 43 years it has taken actions authorized under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act of 1954 that have led to the creation of 40 golf facilities, including courses in such cities as Phoenix, Las Vegas, Albuquerque and Santa Fe, N.M., Portland, Ore., St. George, Utah, and Bismarck, N.D.

BLM is empowered under law to lease or provide title to federal lands to governmental entities at no cost when those lands are used for recreational or public purposes, such as golfing. The BLM is the largest land management agency in the country, with responsibilities for 268 million acres of surface land and about 568 million acres of subsurface mineral estate.

The four-page agreement specifically provides for the BLM to:

- Participate in activities that encourage inner-city and other youth to both play golf and pursue golf as recreation or tourism careers;
- Encourage golf facilities to operate in a manner supportive of wildlife;
- Develop criteria and management practices jointly with The First Tee initiative to encourage environment-friendly management of golf facilities;
- Cooperate with the World Golf

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Beauty from ashes

Continued from page 29

nally built for DuPont employees, Seaford was a fine nine designed by Alfred Tull, who first built courses for Walter Travis, A.W. Tillinghast and Devereux Emmet before designing scores of tracks on his own. Seaford members long desired another nine holes, but did not have the land. Neighboring DuPont, however, did own enough property and leased it to Seaford when the course was built.

Meanwhile, DuPont fulfilled its obligations to the government environmental agencies and, in fact, awarded Whole in One Design Group its Safety, Health and Environmental Excellence Award for DuPont Nylon North America.

The project was indeed a challenge for Mandell and partner Robert Rauch.

They not only faced dealing with this huge pile of coal ash, but also working around monitoring wells and electric and water lines throughout the property.

"We incorporated 500,000 yards of the coal ash as fill," Mandell said, "then added a 1-foot cap of soil over that. On green sites we used 4 feet of soil on top of the ash."

The ash, he said, resembles a sandy loam. "It's a decent growing medium, but not necessarily for golf courses," he said.

The property, part of which had been a DuPont company airstrip, was flat, with 12 feet of fall from one end to the other. Mandell and Rauch added contour by moving another 95,000 yards of material.

Part of the material for the cap came from the five ponds that were built — all connected to create a drainage system.

The end result, Mandell said, is a new nine that resembles Tull's philosophy — exactly what Seaford's members wanted.

The original design is "a neat nine holes," he said. "In keeping with it, we kept the flavor of the plateau-style greens and paid a lot of attention to the approaches. Sometimes the greens were

plateau, and in other spots flush with the edge of the fairway. I kept close watch on having no tiers.

"The bunkers all had sand laying flat in very serpentine shapes. We replicated those shapes pretty successfully."

The exception, he said, was that some of the original bunkers were 5 and 6 feet deep, and the most severe on the new nine are 3 to 4 feet deep.

The project was an engineering challenge, Mandell said. With only 12 feet of fall "there was not enough gravity and positive drainage. We had to finagle the earth to make it drain."

Whole in One built two large ridges to create rolling terrain. In many places it is 20 feet high, and a 40-foot-high berm runs along the 17th hole, blocking the view of the factory parking lot. And pipes interconnect the five ponds to maintain the water level.

The result — a 5,505- to 6,612-yard, par-72 18 holes with bentgrass greens and ryegrass tees and fairways.

•••

Meanwhile, Whole in One opened a second course on May 2: an 18-hole executive track that joins a Lindsay Ervin-designed nine-hole par-3 at Greenfields Golf Park in Berlin, Md., outside Ocean City.

General Manager Ed Colbert and Director of Golf Buddy Sass own the facility and plan to have Whole in One add a nine-hole regulation course at some time in the future.

The new executive course plays to a par 65 and ranges from 3,977 to 5,210 yards.

Because of a tight site, Mandell and Rauch designed one triple tee and a 13,000-square-foot double green.

"We built really neat greens and a lot of mounding for protection," Mandell said, adding that golfers will use all the clubs in the bag when they face par-3s greatly varying in distance, seven par-4s, the longest is 405 from the back. Two long par 5s: 590 and 575.



COLUMBIA POINT OPENS

RICHLAND, Wash.—James J. Engh, Golf Design Group, Inc., has opened its latest project here, Columbia Point Golf Course. The course is owned by the city of Richland and managed by I.R.I. Golf Group of Plano, Texas. Columbia Point has been nominated through Golf Digest as one of the country's Best New Affordable Public Courses for 1999. *The Tri-City Herald* described Columbia Point as "spectacularly unique."

New Vista Bella owner hires Snyder, Richardson

KINGMAN, Ariz. — Golf course architects Arthur Jack Snyder and Forrest Richardson have been selected to design Vista Bella Golf Course here. An 18-hole regulation layout previously announced to begin construction in 1996 with a routing by Gary Panks, Vista Bella has undergone an ownership change along with significant site plan and routing revisions.

"We started with an almost blank canvas," said Richardson, of Phoenix. "The objective was to work with the previous site plan, yet add new thinking that would better suit the growing Kingman market."

New design plans reduce the project's reliance on ground water with less formal turf areas, and feature fewer

on-course lakes.

"Things are changing fast in Kingman," said Richardson. "Our goal is to develop a course with tremendous character, yet preserve at all cost the charm and simplicity that makes Kingman such a unique place."

Snyder described the Vista Bella site as having "views so spacious and beautiful it may be difficult to keep your mind on the game. In any direction one gets the feeling the view just goes on forever."

The course is scheduled to begin construction this year as part of improvements to new phases of the Vista Bella master-planned community. PrimeStyle Development Inc., of Phoenix, is the owner/developer.

The First Tee and BLM

Continued from previous page

Foundation to identify public lands suitable for development of golf teaching and playing facilities.

The agreement provides for the World Golf Foundation to:

- Encourage environment-friendly management of golf facilities;
- Work with BLM to identify potential sites for golf facilities;
- Assist in planning and developing golf facilities, ensuring ongoing support and maintenance;
- Design facilities to meet community needs and site constraints;
- Share expertise and experience in environment-friendly design, development and management of golf facilities;
- Incorporate wildlife habitat preservation, enhancement and interpretation into design, development and management of golf facilities;
- Provide opportunities for women, minorities and especially youth, to learn to play golf and participate in the golf industry;
- Participate in activities that encourage inner city and other youth to play golf and pursue careers in golf, recreation or tourism.

Valparaiso moves ahead on course, training center for youth

VALPARAISO, Ind.—Don Childs Associates (DCA) will master plan a golf course and training center for the city here in a project aimed at reaching youth.

"We believe we are the first municipality in the nation to successfully take the golf training center concept as embraced by the Tiger Woods, First Tee, and Hook-a-Kid Foundations to the construction phase," said John Seibert, director of Parks and Recreation for Valparaiso. "Our staff has been working hard for two years on this project from initial ideas to where we are today. With founding and council approvals in place, we are targeting construction to start in late August, with all aspects of the facility open in the spring of 2000."

The City Council has approved the project and the sale of \$3.5 million in municipal revenue bonds to pay for development and construction.

The teaching and training center will feature a 55-station range, putting course, chipping green and sand bunker, and a three-hole training course with par-3, -4, and -5 golf holes. The clubhouse will be designed to feature an indoor teaching center with state-of-the-art video equipment for instruction and swing analysis.

Meanwhile, DCA will soon be designing the new headquarters and training center of the Minority Golf Association of America (MGAA) in Miami. Developers of the site are poised to break ground later this summer with the facility fully operational in 2000. The academy is the project of Tibor Hollo, Hank Thomas and John David, president of the MGAA.

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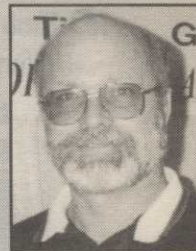


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— Gary Femrite, Golf Superintendent, Pebble Creek G.C., Becker, MN



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CIRCLE #125

ASGCA donates to three groups

CHICAGO — As part of its second annual President's Grant Program, the American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) Foundation has presented grants to the Indiana Golf Foundation (IGF), Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) and Tufts Archives in Pinehurst, N.C., houses many valuable drawings and

works from famed architect and ASGCA founding member Donald Ross and others.

ASGCA Immediate Past President Alice Dye said the donations represent individual contributions of society members.

IGF will use its grant to help launch its new golf camp for at-risk children.

The GCSAA grant was for its new "Investing in the Beauty of Golf Campaign," a \$5-million effort to support superintendent education.



In response to our feature story in May on estate golf courses, course architect Mark Mungeam of Cornish, Silva & Mungeam sent us photos of this course built in the 1920s in Pinehurst, N.C. Called Palmer Woods, it was designed by John R. Bowker for W.A. Fisher.

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Morrish's River Valley Ranch opens

CARBONDALE, Calif. — Set in the midst of a rich ranching history, River Valley Ranch Golf Club opened for play in June as Roaring Fork Valley's newest 18-hole public course.

The club is a partnership between Crown Golf Properties of Chicago and Houston-based

Hines, who hired Jay Morrish to design the layout.

Stretching from 5,294 to 7,311 yards, the course was built along the banks of Crystal River, with four holes playing over scenic rapids and with view of 12,953-foot Mt. Sopris. Pinion pines and sagebrush add their unique spice

to the setting.

To prevent contaminants from entering Crystal River, Morrish designed the course with dry wells, large retention areas and activated charcoal green filters. Basins and traps catch water that may contain sediments from erosion before it flows into the river.

Audubon projects key future development

Continued from page 29

enna College, is taking a one-year sabbatical, starting Aug. 1, and will work on two key projects setting the stage for the Audubon Golf Courses:

- A nationwide survey of government agencies, not-for-profit environmental organizations, golf entities and others to "give people a chance to tell us what the environmental issues are in various parts of the country," Dodson said.

- A book on "rapid environmental assessment" of property for development.

The problem in developing Audubon courses "is not in finding land," Dodson said. "Our problem is that people say they want to give us land, then they say, 'We want to build housing around it, too.' And then we have to worry about buffer zones and whether the project will work and those sorts of questions."

The survey, he said, will help identify properties best suited to the Audubon projects.

"We will take a GPS [Global Positioning Satellite] approach to environmental priority-setting," Dodson said, adding that the survey will determine what the issues are in various parts of

the country. With that information in hand, AI will be able to identify what relative research exists, and what needs to be studied.

"If we have a lot of data, we already have the answer," Dodson said. "But if we don't, we can state the top five or six environmental issues in each of the five or six regions of the country in terms of population growth. Those issues will be our priorities."

Audubon will then look for properties in each region which can be built on and study the specified issues.

"Some people say when you build a course in a forested area, you fragment the habitat, and when you fragment the habitat you displace forest birds, and cowbirds come in and parasitize their nests, etc.," Dodson said. "We actually found more cowbird parasitism at a state park than at Prairie Dunes Country Club [in Hutchinson, Kan.], so we have no data to prove that concern. That information in hand, how would you do research on that project?"

"We want to take a piece of property that is forested, build a golf course in the forest and find

out what the forest is like now and what it is like later," he added. "That will get some people upset with us. But we say, first, grassland birds are in worse shape than forest birds; and, second, we don't have any data to prove what you just claimed. The only way to prove that is to do it."

Meanwhile, Woolbright already has enough information to write a book on how to do a rapid environmental assessment of a property.

It will inform developers how to look at a piece of land based on slope, soil type, features, etc. and rank it on a scale of 1 to 10 according to its environmental sensitivity and cost of construction.

"Those two projects together will govern where we go with these Golf and the Environment Research Facilities," Dodson said.

AI hopes to have the rapid environmental assessment handbook available to the public by the end of Woolbright's sabbatical in 1999. The set of regional environmental issues should be ready before then, Dodson said.

"If we find a property we think is an environmental home run and we can set it up for research, we probably will proceed even while we're doing our survey," he added.

Pint-sized equipment key to Kids Course success

By MARK LESLIE

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The genesis of the Kids Course at Bob-O-Link Golf Course here was actually Bill Ridge's idea in 1995 to manufacture kids-sized golf clubs and bags.

Bill Ridge, a PGA professional like his brother Jack, owned Club Pro Products, which was building windshields and covers for golf cars. Adding golf products for children just expanded the business. The rest is history.

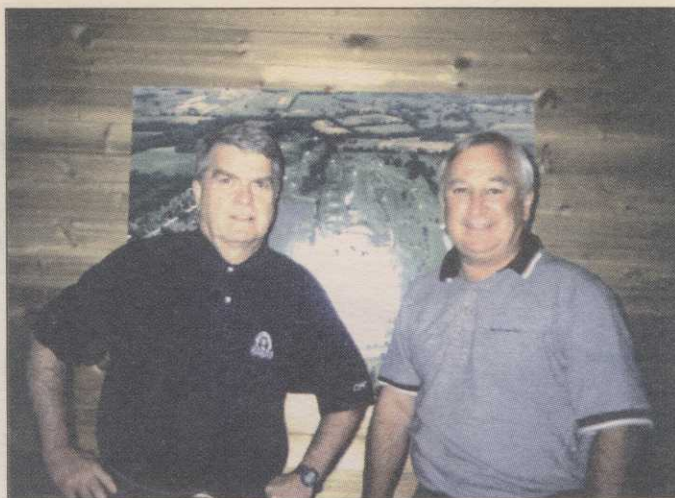
First came a kids' golf bag, called My First Bag, which the company introduced at the PGA Merchandise Show in January 1996 in Orlando, Fla. A quality bag, it was the first one marketed for children 3 to 6 years old and it was "a big hit," Ridge said.

Next came a set of child-sized clubs, My First Clubs. Rather than cutting down the shafts of regulation-sized clubs, these were a 3-wood, 7-iron and putter forged specifically for little people.

When Jack took over as president in the fall of 1996, the trend continued. Now the company offers pull carts, golf clubs, head covers and travel bags.

Then there are the teaching tools. *My First Golf Lesson*, a video developed by PGA professional Rob Stanger of Provo, Utah, and endorsed by Johnny Miller, led to *The Kids Kingdom Golf Coloring and Activity Book*.

The video and coloring book teach children about the golf



Kids Course designers Mike Ridge, left, and Jack Ridge. They have patented the name *The Kids Course*.

course, the game, how to hit the ball and keep score.

The kids products are in 400 to 500 pro shops around the country as well as at such stores as Bloomingdale's, Neiman Marcus and Disney World and at the World Golf Hall of Fame.

Club Pro Products recently signed a licensing agreement with United Media to supply logo-ed Snoopy clubs, bags and shoes for kids.

"This is booming like crazy and going farther and farther," said Mike Ridge, assistant to the president of Club Pro. "We can't make the products fast enough."

Child's Play

Continued from page 1

Club Pro clubs and bags, then asked where they could take their children to play the game.

"I always suggested a par-3 course or driving range," Ridge said. "Where else was there?"

"We're very excited because this will be testing the waters [for similar, future projects]," said Mike Ridge, his cousin Jack's vice president in Ridge Golf Design and assistant to the president of Club Pro. "The whole idea behind this is to let kids experience the game and fall in love with it by actually playing it. It gives them goals, thrills, the challenge, a perception of the game. They're not taking a dozen shots to the green with daddy. They want a chance to make a par or birdie. That's what will keep them coming back."

Although they fought horrible weather, the Ridges said a layout like the Kids Course at Bob-O-Link could be built in a span of two weeks in perfect weather. At Bob-O-Link they simply added far-far-forward tees on 13 holes and used five ladies' tees that are in strategic places, then built bunkers situated for children's play. Kid-sized benches and ball-washers at the tees, and 5-foot-high flag sticks for a second set of kids' holes on the greens add to the built-for-children feeling, as do the kids' scorecards.

The opening on Father's Day was special, Mike Ridge said, because "we wanted the kids to feel it is their course in a sense that Dad is their guest."

Jack Ridge explained: "By installing new sets of tees and the strategic location of new bunkers, hazards and mounding, a routing was being created which, in essence, resulted in a course within a course, with its own distinct character that does not compromise the integrity of the existing full-sized layout."

A PGA professional who has given hun-



Bob-O-Link Golf Course member Buddy Flora tends the flagstick for son Buddy Jr. as he putts into a Kids Course cup.

dreds of lessons to children, Jack Ridge designed the Kids Course with a good feel for how far they hit the ball. He and Mike figured 85 yards on a drive. Therefore, a hole from 85 to 160 yards long is a par-4. Longer than 160 yards is a par-5. An adults' straight-away par-4 of 385 yards can also be a double-dogleg 275-yard par-5 for kids.

Bob-O-Link's Kids Course is a par-74 layout measuring 3,100 yards.

Looking forward to other kids' courses, Mike Ridge said more than one set of children's tees can be built per hole — perhaps having one for 3- to 6-year-old and one for 7- to 10-year-olds. Once a child can shoot par from the shortest tees, he or she could move back to the next set of tees. Once he or she shoots par there, they can move back to the ladies' forward tees, and so forth.

"When people bring their small children here to play, it will be exciting to them," Jack Ridge promised.

Pointing out smaller children's rela-

tively short attention span, Mike Ridge said: "To try to take your children out on the range for an hour is too much. You want to make it fun for them. This course does that and we expect it to be a tremendous success."

The Ridges originally proposed that the State of Kentucky Parks and Tourism departments build stand-alone kids' courses at the state parks. "They loved it, everyone from the head of the golf section of the state Parks Department to the secretary of tourism," said Mike Ridge. But they thought courses strictly for children would not be economically feasible. Still, state officials may decide to build kids' courses within the several existing state-operated regulation golf courses.

Also, the Ridges are including kids' courses within their bids for full-length course projects.

They hope the idea will catch on nationally. Until then, "the kids are standing there growing up and there's nothing for them," Mike Ridge said.

THOMPSON NOW THOMPSON GOLF PLANNING LTD.

SAN RAFAEL, Calif., USA — Thompson Planning Group Ltd., a long-time player in the Asian golf design market, has changed its name to Thompson Golf Planning Ltd. According to company president Peter L.H. Thompson, the new name more appropriately reflects the organization's "overall work in golf course planning and architecture." The company is currently working on a second 18-hole development at Jin Shi Tan (Golden Stone Beach), golf resort in Dalian, China.

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ALL IN THE FAMILY

Robert Trent Jones Sr. (left) has teamed with elder son Bobby to form a new architectural entity, RTJ Golf Ventures. For story, see page 37.

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PLAYERS SURVEYED ON SUPERS' ROLE

Image enhanced but golfers insist on 'green' local

By PETER BLAIS

ORLANDO, Fla. — Most golf superintendents as trained professionals and the person most responsible for course conditions — news consumers should find encouraging national efforts to elevate their status. Disturbingly, however, few recognized the Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America (GCSA) as the national organization. Also troubling was the unwillingness of most golfers to accept poor conditions in exchange for reduced rates and water use on their courses. According to a recent survey conducted by the National Golf Foundation,

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By PETER BLAIS

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SENSITIVE STROKES
Architect Ron Carl worked sensitively around wetlands at the newly opened Indian River Club. Located in Vero Beach, Fla., Indian River is only the third course in the world to be granted Audubon Signature status. The course also embodies the Environmental Principles for Golf Courses recently issued at the conference on Golf & The Environment (see page 16).

Griffith.



Worried the cost of golf is starting to drive people from the game, the incoming and outgoing presidents of the American Society of Golf Course Architects have presented arguments that would lead developers to make harsh choices about their projects.

Picking sides in a point-counterpoint atmosphere, Past President Jeff Brauer of Golfscapes in Houston and new President Denis Griffiths of Braselton, Ga., agreed construction costs have escalated too high but disagreed over the cure.

"Ten years ago there were few upscale daily-fee projects," Griffiths said. "Everyone today is doing

Continued on page 46

Shiun Golf Club in Nigata, Japan, a new design from incoming ASGCA president, Denis Griffiths.

on course costs

By MARK LESLIE

Ciba-Sandoz deal creates new firm: Novartis

Palmer Design Co. honors Charles Fraser

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — Charles E. Fraser of Hilton Head Island, S.C., has been presented The PCDC Award, the highest honor given by Palmer Course Design Co.

An award for innovative excellence, performance and accomplishment, it is presented to an individual or organization for creative contributions that continue to have a positive impact on the business of golf course development.

Fraser is considered the dean of recreational and golf development. Founder and chairman of

the Sea Pines Co. from 1956-1983, "Charles Fraser has generated a record of excellence that is unmatched in our industry," said Arnold Palmer, president of the Palmer Course Design Co.

"All of us at Palmer Course Design are extremely excited and honored that Charles is the first recipient of our award," said Ed Seay, Palmer Design's chief operating officer.



Charles Fraser

Poellot in U.S.

Continued from page 31
another 15,000 acres which state agencies bought and turned into Sterling Forest State Park.

Much of the site is an old iron mine dating back to Revolutionary War. A low-density housing development for senior citizens is planned, along with limited commercial and office space, with the cornerstone being the 18-hole

course and 9-hole executive track.

• Coyote Creek, a short course in San Jose, which is in the planning stages.

• An unnamed 18-hole high-end municipal course under planning in Pleasanton, Calif.

• Roddy Ranch, a stand-alone 18-hole public facility in Antioch, Calif., developed by Roddy Ranch LLC, is under planning but expected to be fast-tracking through the permitting process.

Q&A: Poellot

Continued from page 31

has happened to us. With the Indonesian crisis and other things in Asia slamming the door on projects, opportunities have been coming in as frequently, if not more so, here in the United States.

We are still an international firm. But given the opportunities being given to us in the U.S., we will be much more highly selective in what we will do. We are giving thought to a project in Brazil.

GCN: Do you see a difference in what developers want from one part of the world to another? How about in the States?

JMP: It depends on the country. In developing countries, like Central and South America, golf is relatively new in their marketplace. Just having a golf course in a development is all they need to start selling real estate. They're not at the level where they can differentiate between a cluster of fairways and a truly great golf experience.

There is a big difference. We have a huge legacy of understanding the game in the United States and, here, what sells it is the quality of the product. A developer in Japan, for example, wants a course he can distinguish and differentiate from the one down the street; and there are a lot down the street. It has to be special to market, because historically the membership fees have been astronomical. That is not so true today, but historically it is.

There is a little difference between developers here in the United States. There are certain "name" architects who have been around for quite some time. Pretty much every major area has a few of those already. Perhaps that's why we're getting the response we're getting: People are looking for a new face, for something different, something that has a little marketing edge over one of the old, established labels.

GCN: Do you have a favorite "classical architect"?

JMP: That would have been a very easy answer a month ago. I would have said Alister Mackenzie as most architects would initially respond. But having seen some of George Thomas' work [Riviera, Bel-Aire, and particularly Los Angeles Country Club], I was overwhelmed.

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BRIEFS



ARIZ RESORT NAMES KRAUSE DIRECTOR

LAVEEN, Ariz.—Mountain View Golf Club has named Kurt Krause its new Director of Golf Operations for the 36-hole golf facility located west of downtown Phoenix in Laveen, Ariz. As director of golf operations, Krause will oversee all activities at the course including golf, food and beverage, retail and course maintenance.



Kurt Krause

MOZER JOINS FMAC

LOS ANGELES—FMAC has fired Peter Mozer as executive vice president and chief credit officer. Mozer plans to reorganize the FMAC credit department by integrating the credit, compliance and workout disciplines. Mozer will be responsible for overseeing the credit function for all FMAC product areas including the restaurant, energy, golf, funeral and equipment finance groups.

DUNEDIN SELECTS IGM

LAKELAND, Fla.—International Golf Maintenance (IGM) has been selected by Dunedin Country Club to oversee its golf course maintenance operations. Under the three-year agreement, IGM provides all aspects of golf course maintenance for this Donald Ross-designed, 18-hole layout.



The 6900-yard course has been in operation since 1927. The city of Dunedin took ownership in 1962.

WILSON ADDS MINN. PROPERTY

The Wilson Golf Group, a White Bear Lake, Minn.-based golf course ownership and operations company, has named Greg Stand director of acquisitions. Stand also is the general manager of one of the Wilson Golf Group's golf course properties, Oak Glen, a 27-hole public facility in Stillwater, Minn. The Wilson Golf Group owns and operates six golf facilities including four in Minnesota and two in Colorado. The group is actively seeking to acquire additional golf facilities in the upper Midwest region of the country. For further information, call 612-439-6981.

DPC definitely Major League
Mgt. firm uses pro athletes to market facilities

By PETER BLAIS

ORLANDO, Fla.—Diamond Players Club (DPC), a new golf management company headed by St. Louis Cardinals pitcher Todd Stottlemyre with the assistance of numerous professional athletes, will build a course at the Levitt Corp.'s Skytop Development at Clermont, Fla.

Construction of the course, Diamond Players Club at Orlando, will begin this summer. The facility is expected to open in the fall of 1999. The club will be semiprivate, with about 180 members, and be open to public play.

DPC will own the new Orlando course, which will be designed by golf architect Terill LaGree, modifying an original plan of Lloyd Clifton. LaGree is vice president of Barbaron Inc., which will perform the construction.

The 175-acre course has elevation changes of as much as 200 feet. A practice complex, three-acre putting course and golf academy are also planned. The entire 500-acre Skytop site will also contain an 800-home development.

The project brings together one of the leading names in home building and one of the newest companies in golf management.

Levitt Corp. was founded in 1929 by the late Abraham Levitt.

Diamond Players Club — which also manages Donald Ross-designed Belleview Biltmore Golf Club in Belleair, and has several other construction, lease and management projects under development — was founded in 1997 by Stottlemyre and Greg Gagliardi, twice voted the West Central Florida Chapter PGA Professional of the Year and longtime general manager of Lansbrook Golf Club in Palm Harbor. Stottlemyre is chief executive officer and Gagliardi is chief operating officer.



Gregg Gagliardi (right), Todd Stottlemyre (center) and Rob Ducey

DPC won the management contract for Belleview Biltmore in mid-1997. Stottlemyre solicited a number of professional athletes who were "easy to get along with, very people-oriented." The players agreed to make themselves available for corporate outings and allow the use of their name for marketing purposes. Among them are Seattle Mariners pitcher Rob Ducey, Tampa Bay Buccaneers running back Mike Alstott, Arizona Diamondbacks pitcher Andy Benes, Boston Red Sox pitcher

Continued on page 43

GUEST COMMENTARY

Golf property tax assessments: Your firm's plan of action

By LARRY HIRSH

With local governments increasingly squeezed for operating revenues, real-estate owners are asked to bear a larger burden. Golf courses are an easy target. Why not? Only 12 percent of the population play golf and golfers are perceived by non-golfers as "rich people in bright clothes chasing a little white ball."



Larry Hirsh

Moreover, when schools, police and fire protection are at risk, golf courses are politically acceptable targets.

Recently, many jurisdictions' tax reassessments have been particularly hard on golf course properties. For example, Montgomery County Pa. (an area with a number of upscale, daily-fee and private clubs) experienced double-digit reassessment and in Beaufort County, S.C. (the Hilton Head Island resort area) a reassessment resulted in

Continued on page 40

Larry Hirsh is president of Golf Property Analysts, a Harrisburg, Pa.-based golf course appraisal firm.

Meditrust, Cobblestone complete merger

NEEDHAM HEIGHTS, Mass.— The Meditrust Companies announced that it has completed its acquisition of Cobblestone Holdings, Inc., the parent of Cobblestone Golf Group, Inc. and will exchange all of the outstanding preferred and common stock of Cobblestone for Meditrust shares.

Meditrust also assumed and refinanced approximately \$154 million of Cobblestone debt. After the previously announced golf course acquisitions are closed, Cobblestone will have a portfolio of 45 facilities with 49 courses in major golf markets and will be one of the leading owners and operators of golf courses in the United States.

Abraham D. Gosman, Chairman of the Board of The Meditrust Companies, stated, "The acquisition of Cobblestone establishes Meditrust as a leader in the growing golf industry. Golf has attracted over 26 million participants in 1997, an increase of 13 percent from 1996. With [Cobblestone Presi-

dent] Bob Husband and his organization, Meditrust gains an excellent management team to speed the rapid consolidation of this sector. We envision Cobblestone at the core of a number of golf-related acquisitions that we have planned in this extremely fragmented industry."



Bob Husband

Husband will continue to serve as president and CEO of Cobblestone, now a subsidiary of The Meditrust Companies. Cobblestone's headquarters will remain in Del Mar, Calif.

"We are very excited about the combination of Meditrust and Cobblestone," Husband said. "Working together, we believe that Meditrust will continue to increase its presence in the golf industry and maintain a dominant position."

In other news, Cobblestone announced John Williams will add responsibilities as regional Director for the company's California facilities. Williams will continue to oversee Cobblestone's operations in Arizona.

United Golf acquires Sarasota, Fla. layout

NEW YORK—United Golf Group, a private golf course owner, has acquired the Serenoa Golf Club, an 18-hole semi-private course in Sarasota, Fla., for \$7.1 million. The course, designed by David Alden and completed in 1990, is located in a residential development.

United Golf CEO Mark Mashburn said: "The Serenoa course fits in well with our long-term goal of acquiring a portfolio of quality courses throughout the country. The course is located in the strong Sarasota market and enjoys the support of visitors as well as year-round residents. We plan to continue operating the course

as an upscale facility that will be an asset to the area."

United Golf is based in New York. Formed in early 1998, United Golf is actively acquiring public and private courses throughout the country. United Golf's management includes personnel with a combined 50 years of experience with course acquisition and management as well as individuals with extensive experience in the capital markets. United Golf plans to use this platform to make further acquisitions this year. For more information on the company, please contact the company at 212-317-0300.

Hirsh

Continued from page 39

creases for golf properties of between 300 percent and 900 percent. What should course owners do? The following article provides a checklist to make course owners better prepared for the potential challenges of a reassessment.

Quick Action

Any new assessment notice will have a date on it by which any appeal or objection must be filed. If such objection is not filed in a timely manner, any

right to appeal can be forfeited.

Evaluation

It is critical to evaluate your case objectively. While large assessment increases are often shocking and unjustified, in some cases they represent nothing more than fair updates of valuation. Pursuing an appeal with no foundation can be costly and you risk your assessment being increased. The best way to evaluate your case is to engage the services of a qualified appraiser to perform a preliminary assessment analysis and valuation. In

most cases, there is no need to have an appraisal completed right away and most appraisers will work on a phased basis to control "up-front" costs. It is important to ensure that the appraiser you hire is experienced, credible and can perform competently as an expert witness.

Cooperation with Assessing Authorities

Taxing authorities often calculate how far they can negotiate based on the potential cost of litigation to the taxpayer. Knowing this can often help

In any assessment case, the property owner has to be prepared to "go the distance." This is the best way to avoid costly litigation.

avoid costly and uncertain litigation. Especially in jurisdictions where reassessments have occurred, the caseload is often quite burdensome and taxing authorities may be prepared to adjust assessments for those taxpayers who have prepared accordingly and provide ample support for their case — this can be you.

Sharing of Information

A constant conflict between course owners and tax assessors is the confidentiality with which owners treat their income and expense statements and other operating information. While it is certainly understandable to maintain the privacy of financial records, golf courses are typically appraised based primarily on the income approach and historical income is often the best data available. Assessors, often unfamiliar with the valuation of golf properties, utilize data that sometimes does not represent a true picture of a property's operation and do not understand that a facility's published rates can often be substantially different than its actual achieved averages.

While I do not advocate owners "publishing" their operating information, it would seem that certain issues, such as accurate round counts (adjusted for 18-hole equivalents), average green fees, per-round estimates of pro-shop and food and beverage sales, and market information of operating expense ratios or certain line items can be shared with an independent consultant in order to formulate market averages and trend without jeopardizing confidentiality. This could help encourage accurate assessments on the front end or certainly shorten the appeal process through amicable settlements.

Preparation

In any assessment case, the property owner has to be prepared to "go the distance." This is the best way to avoid costly litigation. Hire counsel who is experienced and respected, be prepared to have your appraiser prepare a complete appraisal report on the property and be ready to litigate, if necessary.

As the battle in many local jurisdictions continues to increase revenue dollars, tax assessors are contemplating the reassessment of all golf course properties. In some areas, taxing districts are engaging experienced golf property consultants to assist in achieving fair assessments, while in other jurisdictions, golf property owners are mobilizing in groups to respond to the reassessments by engaging legal counsel and consultants. Whatever the strategy or situation, preparation, cooperation and straightforwardness may go a long way in achieving just assessments for all parties concerned.

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Raskin forms new mgt. and turf subsidiary

Edwin B. Raskin Company recently formed Golf Management Group as a subsidiary. The new venture will be utilized for Raskin's golf course management and turfcare consulting and construction operations.

Raskin, a 43-year old Nashville real-estate company, does commercial property management, sales, leasing and development and has been in the golf course management business for 16 years, according to the David Battis, the company's president.

"We're currently involved in the management of three golf courses," Battis said. "We manage the entire operation at Country Hills in Hendersonville, Tenn., and do the turfcare management at Bluegrass in Hendersonville, Tenn., and Ravenwood in Hermitage, Tenn."

Lynn Ray, Golf Management Group's vice president, is a certified golf course superintendent with a plant and soil science degree from Middle Tennessee State University and 12 years golf course management experience including Belle Meade Country Club and Nashboro Village, both in Nashville, which Raskin managed from 1981 until it was sold last year. Ray has been with Raskin since 1986. Raskin recently hired Mike Bays, who has a turfcare degree from University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tenn., and was previously with The Legends Club in Franklin, Tenn.

STARWOOD TO MANAGE ILL.'S EAGLE RIDGE

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. — Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc., a leading hotel and gaming company, will manage the hotel and resort operations of the Eagle Ridge Inn and Resort in Galena, Ill. The 6,800-acre development, owned by Golf Trust of America, includes 63 championship holes of golf, the 80-room Eagle Ridge Inn, a rental pool of 350 resort homes and an equestrian center. Troon Golf will oversee the golf operations.

Corcoran-Jennison names Wolheib COO

BREWSTER, Mass. — In conjunction with Corcoran Jennison Hospitality's (CJH) expanded development operation, Lisa Wolheib has been promoted to chief operating officer of the golf course and hospitality management company.

"In her 10 years at CJH, she has helped our clients greatly improve their standards for customer ser-

vice while showing significant bottom-line growth," said CJH President Scott Stetner.

Wolheib has managed development of properties from concept to completion. "Our success is built on a strong team of fi-

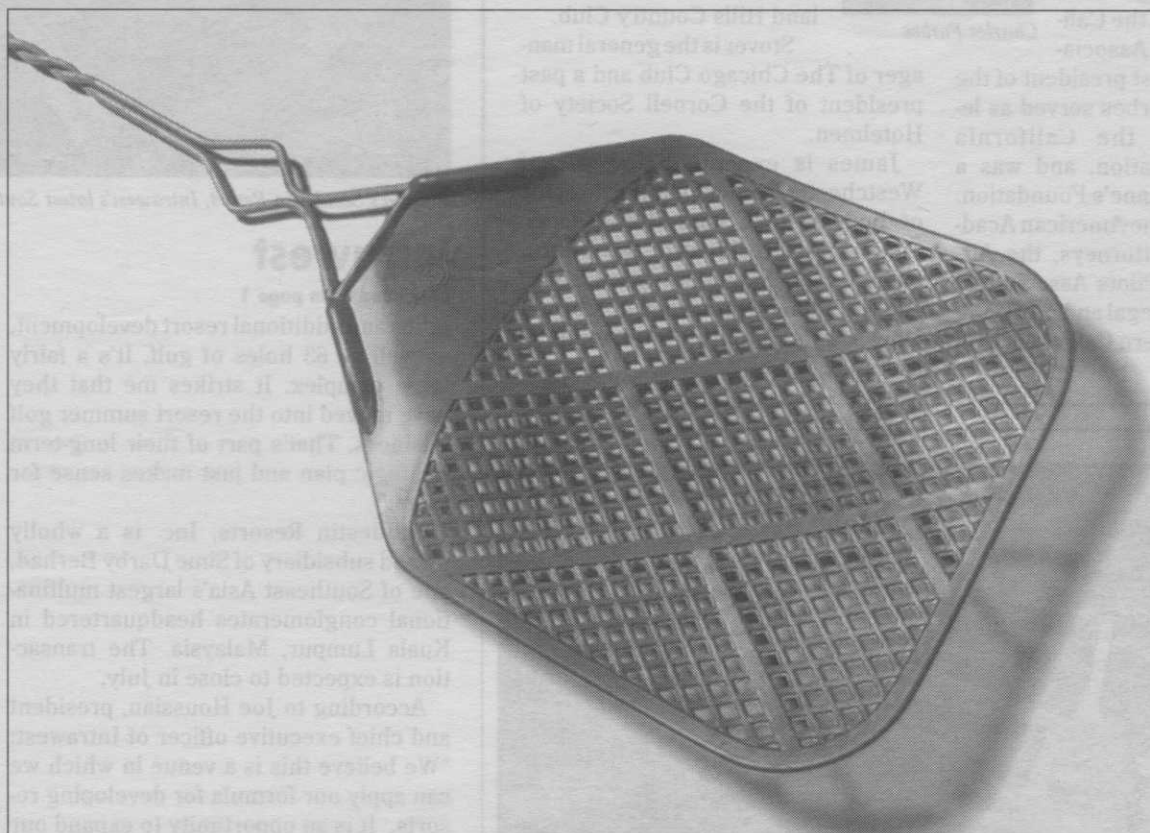


Lisa Wolheib

nancial, golf and marketing professionals," Wolheib said. "The skills and knowledge we put to use for the courses we manage are extremely beneficial for golf course developers. By researching the local economy,

demographics and competition, we can help them assess the feasibility of their projects and develop a strategy to position their property in the market."

Among the Massachusetts courses CJH operates are Ocean Edge Resort and Golf Club on Cape Cod, Glen Ellen Country Club in Millis, Widow's Walk Golf Course in Scituate and Olde Scotland Links in Bridgewater.



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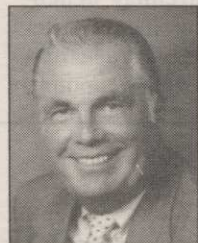
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NCA elects new president, officers

Former LA lawyer to lead private club association

WASHINGTON — Charles Forbes was elected the 21st president of the National Club Association at the organization's recent annual meeting held in Charlotte, N.C.

Forbes is a former partner with the Los Angeles law firm Musick, Peeler & Garrett. He was a member of the board of directors and served as vice president of the California State Club Association. He is also a past president of the California Club. Forbes served as legal counsel for the California Healthcare Association, and was a trustee for the St. Anne's Foundation. He is a member of the American Academy of Hospital Attorneys, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, and served on the Legal and Tax Committee of the Southern California Golf Association.



Charles Forbes

Elected to serve in other officer positions were J. Bryan Williams as vice president; Frank T. Stover, Certified Club Manager (CCM), as treasurer; and Robert C. James, CCM, as secretary.

Williams is an executive partner with the Detroit law firm Dickinson, Wright, Moon, Van Dusen & Freeman, and a member of Oakland Hills Country Club.

Stover is the general manager of The Chicago Club and a past president of the Cornell Society of Hotelmen.

James is executive director of Westchester Country Club, a director of the New York State Club Association, a past president of the Metropolitan Club Managers Association, and an adjunct professor at Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration.



Florida's Sandestin Resort, Intrawest's latest Southern golf purchase

Intrawest

Continued from page 1

nities and additional resort development, as well as 63 holes of golf. It's a fairly large complex. It strikes me that they have moved into the resort summer golf business. That's part of their long-term strategic plan and just makes sense for them."

Sandestin Resorts, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Sime Darby Berhad, one of Southeast Asia's largest multinational conglomerates headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The transaction is expected to close in July.

According to Joe Houssian, president and chief executive officer of Intrawest: "We believe this is a venue in which we can apply our formula for developing resorts. It is an opportunity to expand our non-winter revenue, it includes a golf opportunity in line with our decision to expand our position in the golf industry, it includes real estate potential which plays to an Intrawest strength, and it potentially provides another warm-weather alternative for our high-end points-based vacation club, Club Intrawest."

The purchase includes management of approximately 700 rental units (100 of which are owned by the company), a tennis center, conference facilities, and a 37,000-square foot resort retail "market." Also included are two restaurants adjacent to two resort swimming pools, a new sports bar, a full-service marina, a health club and a soon-to-be completed "members-only" beach club.

Future real estate includes approximately 2,300 planned residential units, comprising condominiums, townhomes and single-family lots, and approximately 200,000 square feet of commercial space. As part of that development, Intrawest believes an opportunity exists to build a resort village at the Baytowne Marina on the Intracoastal Waterway similar to Harbortown at Hilton Head Island.

Intrawest owns ski resorts throughout North America, many of which have golf courses. The company also operates several stand-alone golf facilities. Intrawest's golf properties include Panorama GC, Invermere, British Columbia; Mont. St. Marie, Ottawa, Ontario; Mt. Tremblant, Quebec; Stratton Mountain, Vt., Snowshoe, W. Va.; Eagles Nest GC, Silverthorn,

Colo.; Copper Mountain, Colo.; Mammoth Mountain, Calif.; Raven at South Mountain, Phoenix; Raven at Sabino Springs, Tucson, Ariz.

"Sandestin is a very important first step in our move to develop warm-weather destinations and further take advantage of the opportunities that come with controlling a network of resorts," added Houssian. "There are many synergies with our current business and considerable cross-marketing possibilities."

The latest move follows Intrawest's April acquisition of Raven Golf Group, which owned the two Arizona courses in Arizona and is developing a third for the city of Carlsbad, Calif.

"With the management at Sandestin and Raven Golf's expertise and service methodology, we plan to reposition the existing Sandestin courses and build a new high-end championship course called The Raven at Sandestin," said Houssian.

The Sandestin purchase reflects Intrawest's strategy to take advantage of the similar demographics between the ski and golf markets, especially in terms of second-home purchases by Baby Boomers.

ASC, an Intrawest rival in the North American resort market, operates four golf courses in New England — Sugarbush, Killington and Mt. Snow — all ASC-owned and located in Vermont — and Sugarloaf, which it leases in Carrabassett Valley, Maine. A new course at ASC-owned Sunday River in Bethel, Maine, is in the final permitting stages with the state; Sugarloaf is in negotiations with the town to add a second course; and ASC is "seriously" considering developing an 18-hole course at its ski resort in Attitash in Bartlett, N.H.

Still, all of ASC's courses are part of what are primarily ski operations. Would the company consider buying or developing golf facilities, especially warm-weather sites, like Intrawest has done in Arizona and Florida?

"We won't rule it out if it presents opportunities for the company," said Richardson. "We have integrated skiing and real estate successfully at our mountain resorts. We wouldn't likely buy golf courses without the ability to integrate real estate... Golf is probably even more of an opportunity for second-home buying."

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Diamond

Continued from page 39

Dennis Eckersley, Mariners pitcher Mike Timlin, San Diego Padres outfielder Mark Sweeney, Padres pitching coach



and former Cy Young Award winner Dave Stewart, Yankees

pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre (Todd's dad), University of Nevada Las Vegas pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre Jr. (Todd's brother), Cardinals catcher Tom Pagnozzi, retired major league pitcher Rick Honeycutt, Pittsburgh Pirates outfielder Turner Ward, former Cleveland Indians pitcher Sam McDowell and Cardinals utility player John Mabry.

"All are committed to supporting the Diamond Players Club concept," Gagliardi said. "If a company like GTE wants to do a corporate outing we can say, 'Hey we have Dennis Eckersley available to help with that.' The players give us their jerseys and photos, which we incorporate into our clubhouse scheme. We've created a sports bar atmosphere here [Bellevue Biltmore] with six satellite hook-ups and 17 televisions around the clubhouse. We'll take that theme to our other courses in the future."

Stottlemyre and Gagliardi first met when Stottlemyre, Ducey and New York Yankees pitcher David Wells started playing Lansbrook in 1989, the year Gagliardi joined the course staff.

Gagliardi said: "Todd recalls when he first drove up always saying, 'I don't want to play this goat ranch again.' It wasn't maintained that well before I started. I told him to keep coming by and watch what we'd do to the place. He liked what we did, we hit it off and began hanging around together."

Stottlemyre has a "very savvy" business mind, Gagliardi said. He was intrigued by the course's improvement and impressed by the financial potential.

As their relationship grew, Stottlemyre started helping Gagliardi market Lansbrook, using his notoriety as a professional ballplayer in promotional radio spots. He also donated jerseys belonging to him and several other players which were placed on the clubhouse wall, an effort that stirred conversation, increased business and gave rise to the Diamond Players Club concept.

For his part, Gagliardi helped Stottlemyre promote his annual celebrity charity golf tournament to raise funds to battle leukemia, a disease that claimed the life of

Stottlemyre's younger brother. Tournament revenues grew from \$35,000 to \$175,000 within five years. That further solidified their relationship.

Diamond Players Club plans to grow through management deals, lease arrangements and ownership. In addition to the DPC of Orlando and Bellevue Biltmore projects, the firm in August will begin leasing a Mike

Young-designed course in Destin from Capital First Holdings of Tallahassee. The DPC of Destin is scheduled to open next June.

"We'd like to eventually be in every major market in the country," Gagliardi said. "Right now, we're concentrating on the Florida/Georgia markets."

What differentiates DPC from other firms?

"We take customer service to the n-th degree," Gagliardi replied.

"Our focus is on developing customer loyalty, repeat business... We want people who play golf here to feel like they are on vacation for a day. We want to come up with innovative service concepts for the golf business and pepper in the celebrity aspect. You never know what ce-

lebrity you might see at one of our courses. [Seattle Mariners pitcher] Randy Johnson was here last Saturday after he'd pitched the night before against the Devil Rays."

"Our sports bar inside the clubhouse is going to be called 'Box Seats Sports Bar & Grill.' We've trade-marked that. We'll take that everywhere, with seating for 160 to 180 people."

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BRIEFS



AGREVO JOINS PLATINUM TEE CLUB

MONTVALE, N.J.—AgrEvo has announced its recent membership in the Platinum Tee Club, the premier support organization of The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Foundation. AgrEvo became a member of the Platinum Tee Club to demonstrate its support of the GCSAA Foundation, a primary source of funding for advancements in the field of golf course management.

JOHNSON NAMED

CONTRACT SALES MANAGER

WILMINGTON, Del.—Zeneca Professional Products has named Glen Johnson as contract sales market lead. In his new position, Johnson will be responsible for the sale of all technical active ingredients to customers in the non-ag and agricultural markets in North America. Johnson has worked with Zeneca for 15 years in the Ag Products Group and previously held the positions of technical services manager, western regional market development manager and product acquisition & licensing manager.

WEBB ON BOARD AT PRECISION

NORTHBROOK, Ill.—Precision Laboratories has announced that Lynn Webb has joined the turf, ornamental, and aquatics team as the western district manager covering Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Arkansas and California. Webb brings 10 years of experience in the turf and ornamental market to Precision. Most recently, she was an area manager of professional fertilizer products for the golf course and landscape customers at J.R. Simplot in Southern California.

HYDRO-SCAPE'S HUMPHRYS RETIRES

SAN DIEGO—Archie Humphrys has retired as president of Hydro-Scape Products after 28 years with the company. Humphrys leaves a legacy of over three decades of work and support for the landscape and irrigation industry and has helped direct many industry associations and political coalitions such as the California Landscape Contractors Association, the Southern California Turf Grass Council, and The Council for a Green Environment. He is succeeded by Dale Tiglio, a 20-year veteran of Hydro-Scape Products, who will assume the position of president.

John Deere donates equipment to Colbert Hills

By MICHAEL LEVANS

MANHATTAN, Kan. — John Deere recently inked a commitment to provide the Colbert Hills Golf Course, the prototype Tournament Players Club (TPC) university course at Kansas State University (see GCN, June, page 17), with a full complement of new Deere turf equipment.

"When John Deere signed with the PGA Tour to be the exclusive supplier of mowing equipment to all TPC owned courses last year, we built a very good relationship with them," said Jim Porter, administrator, John Deere golf & turf sales. "Kansas State was able to get together with PGA Tour properties and hire

them to be the management and operational group of Colbert Hills."

It was that initial relationship with the PGA that got Deere involved. According

to Porter, this equipment will play a critical role in the development and maintenance of the course, a course that opens management avenues to future golf course superintendents through a "living laboratory" approach to learning.

"Superintendents can grow grass," said Porter. "But they don't seem to be prepared for many of today's challenges, in that they didn't have the business classes or the communications classes. This new program will help alleviate those deficiencies, and we think that our involvement will help move that process along."

John Deere also stands to learn from the course's unique function as classroom. Accord-

Continued on page 47



Seated: Jim Porter, administrator, John Deere Golf & Turf Sales. Standing (left to right): Robert Krouse, vice president of institutional advancement, KSU; Richard Bowers, vice president of community affairs, PGA Tour; Jim Colbert, senior PGA pro; Steve Mona, CEO, GCSAA; and George Renault III, president of the GCSAA

New European market player: Flowtronex Europe

By MICHAEL LEVANS

DALLAS/PORTSMOUTH, England — With a goal of becoming more competitive in the European pump station market, Rosewood Equipment, the parent company of pump system manufacturer Flowtronex PSI, has purchased Portsmouth-based Action Pumping Services Ltd., the company's first international acquisition.



With Action under its wing, Rosewood has launched Flowtronex Europe Ltd., a brand new entity headed by Steve Hockley, Action's managing director.

Flowtronex PSI has had European representation in Hamburg, Germany for the past two years, however, according to Rosewood Vice President Dave Brockway, Action offers a 'local' manufacturing presence and an entrée into European markets that, to this point for the company, have remained untapped.

"We've sold some pump stations into the market," said Brockway, "but we were getting the high-end, high-profile, typical American designed courses.

"The problem is that for every one of those high-end courses there are 10 other, more typical European courses with smaller irrigation system needs. We have a very good product but it's an American product and it's a high-end product. Now we can manufacture locally; and from a cost standpoint, we can now make a more competitive product."

From Action's standpoint, Flowtronex offers a wealth of resources. "It's not only financial," said Hockley. "They bring personnel, marketing and technological expertise that a small firm just can't afford. That's going to be a big improvement for us, certainly as far as getting deeper into the markets in Europe."

Continued on page 48



NEW PRODUCT OF THE MONTH: SMITHCO'S STAR SHIELD

WAYNE, Penn.—The new Star Shield spray boom is now available with Smithco Spray Star dedicated turf sprayers. The boom is known for its precise application control and its minimum hazard to operators, golfers and the environment. A special feature of the Star Shield is its aerodynamic tear-drop design, which redirects the flow of air coming over the shield and minimizes wind-drift, especially in windy conditions, permitting better management of spraying schedules. Another special feature of the Star Shield is its particularly light weight. The entire unit weighs in at only 250 lbs., half the weight of the types of spray booms. For more information, contact 610-688-4009.

International picks up half of Twin City

HALSEY, Ore.—International Seeds, Inc., a Cebeco Agricultural Seeds Group member, reached a final agreement to purchase 50 percent of the issued and outstanding share of stock of Twin City Seed Co. of Minneapolis, Minn.

Twin City Seed Co. was founded five years ago by John Glattly and several other investors to distribute turf and forage grass seeds and erosion control products in the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, North and South Dakota. International Seeds is a leading breeder, producer and marketer of improved turf and forage grasses.

The joint agreement will provide for greater distribution and long term growth in the Midwestern market and represents a consistent source of supply and access to new varieties developed by ISI/Cebeco research.

According to Glattly, "This agreement means another step forward in our rapid growth to become a major supplier of turf and forage grass products in the upper Midwest."

John Glattly will remain as President and General Manager of Twin City Seed Co., and Rich Underwood, President and General Manager of International Seeds, will become Chairman of the Board for Twin City Seed Co.



National Perennial Ryegrass Test — 4th-year report

Name	AR1	GA1	IA1	IL1	IL2	IN1	KS1	KY1	MD1	ME1	MI1	MO1	MO3	NE1	NJ1	NJ2	OH1	OK1	PA1	QE1	RI1	UB1	UB2	VA1	WA1	WA3	WI1	Mean
* Palmer III	5.0	3.5	6.7	5.5	5.6	7.1	6.1	7.6	6.1	8.4	6.0	3.9	7.3	7.4	6.1	5.3	8.1	5.5	7.0	6.9	7.1	5.5	5.8	5.6	7.0	6.3	6.2	6.2
* Secretariat	6.8	3.5	6.9	6.5	6.0	6.9	5.9	7.8	6.0	7.8	5.0	4.7	6.4	7.3	5.8	5.4	8.2	5.4	7.3	6.6	6.7	6.2	5.9	5.2	6.4	5.8	5.8	6.2
* Brightstar II	6.4	3.4	6.1	5.2	5.1	7.3	6.2	8.1	6.2	7.1	4.8	5.0	7.3	6.3	6.3	6.1	8.0	6.4	7.1	6.6	5.3	5.4	6.7	5.2	7.7	6.3	5.7	6.2
* Calypso II	5.6	3.4	6.6	5.6	6.6	7.1	5.9	7.2	6.1	7.3	5.5	4.5	7.0	7.2	6.3	5.0	8.0	6.2	7.7	6.0	6.5	6.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	6.1	5.4	6.2
* Monterey	4.1	3.5	6.5	5.6	5.3	7.3	6.1	7.3	5.9	7.5	6.0	4.8	6.3	7.1	5.9	5.6	8.2	4.8	7.8	6.5	6.5	5.6	6.3	5.2	6.8	6.1	6.2	6.1
* Caddieshack	6.2	3.3	6.5	5.1	5.9	7.0	6.1	7.5	5.9	7.5	5.0	4.5	6.9	7.0	5.6	5.2	8.0	6.4	6.9	6.3	6.1	6.5	6.7	5.0	6.1	5.3	6.0	6.1
* Panther	4.5	3.1	6.4	6.1	5.1	7.0	5.9	7.7	5.9	7.3	5.3	4.6	7.0	7.1	6.6	5.8	8.0	5.8	6.9	6.4	6.5	5.4	6.3	4.9	6.3	6.1	5.9	6.1
* Accent	6.6	3.2	6.3	5.4	6.1	7.0	5.9	7.0	6.2	7.7	4.5	5.0	6.3	7.4	5.2	4.8	8.0	7.2	6.8	6.0	6.3	5.8	6.6	5.0	6.1	5.5	5.8	6.1
* Prelude III	6.8	3.3	5.8	5.0	6.0	6.8	6.3	8.1	6.0	8.5	4.5	4.6	7.4	6.5	6.1	5.1	7.8	6.0	6.0	6.4	5.8	5.6	5.4	5.7	6.7	5.2	5.7	6.0
ISI-MHB	4.8	3.4	6.6	5.2	4.8	6.9	5.8	7.7	5.9	7.8	5.9	4.5	6.7	7.4	5.3	5.0	8.1	6.3	6.8	6.8	6.3	5.5	6.0	5.1	6.4	6.3	5.9	6.0
* Premiere II	6.0	3.3	6.9	5.0	4.8	7.2	5.9	8.4	5.8	7.7	3.9	4.4	7.0	6.9	6.1	5.5	7.7	5.5	6.8	6.6	6.4	5.2	6.7	5.3	6.2	6.1	5.5	6.0
* Prizm	5.0	3.4	6.6	4.8	6.0	6.8	6.4	7.4	6.1	7.0	5.6	4.9	7.0	7.2	5.0	4.9	8.2	6.0	7.3	6.4	5.9	5.4	6.3	5.1	6.3	6.1	5.7	6.0
* Pennant II	7.0	3.4	6.4	5.4	6.2	6.9	5.2	8.3	5.8	7.4	4.0	4.7	6.7	7.5	5.7	5.1	7.8	5.5	6.9	6.7	4.8	5.4	6.3	4.8	7.1	5.9	5.2	6.0
* Manhattan 3	4.6	3.4	6.8	5.1	4.8	7.0	5.9	8.0	5.9	7.4	4.8	4.8	6.2	7.1	6.0	4.5	8.3	6.5	7.2	6.2	6.1	5.4	6.4	5.4	7.1	5.0	5.7	6.0
* Top Hat	6.2	3.3	6.4	5.7	5.1	7.0	6.2	8.1	5.8	8.3	5.1	4.5	5.9	7.2	5.2	4.7	8.0	6.7	6.8	5.9	5.7	5.1	5.9	5.1	6.1	5.8	5.9	6.0
LRF-94-C8	6.5	2.9	5.8	5.0	6.0	7.0	6.0	8.3	5.3	8.1	4.6	4.3	7.4	6.7	5.8	4.5	7.9	6.1	6.8	6.3	5.0	4.9	6.0	5.6	7.3	5.6	5.9	6.0
* Catalina	6.6	3.3	6.2	5.6	5.3	6.8	5.3	7.7	5.9	7.3	4.4	4.8	6.4	7.1	6.1	5.1	8.1	5.5	7.1	6.3	6.3	5.3	6.6	5.1	6.3	5.3	5.5	6.0
* Passport	5.7	3.0	6.6	5.5	4.3	7.0	5.4	7.7	5.8	6.2	6.0	4.3	6.6	7.5	5.0	4.4	8.4	5.7	7.6	6.6	6.9	5.3	6.3	5.4	6.4	5.6	5.9	6.0
MB 44	7.3	3.4	6.4	5.0	5.4	6.7	5.0	8.0	5.9	6.6	4.1	5.0	5.7	7.5	5.3	4.7	7.8	6.2	7.0	6.6	5.8	5.6	5.6	5.2	8.0	5.3	5.9	6.0
* Line Drive	5.2	3.9	6.7	5.3	5.4	7.1	5.7	7.8	6.0	6.4	3.2	4.4	7.3	7.3	6.1	5.3	8.0	6.4	6.9	6.3	6.5	5.0	5.3	5.4	7.0	5.4	5.7	6.0
* Esquire	5.7	3.3	6.2	4.7	5.0	6.7	5.7	7.8	6.0	7.3	5.7	4.9	6.5	7.4	5.8	5.2	7.7	7.1	6.7	6.3	6.4	5.5	6.0	5.3	5.8	5.2	5.3	6.0
LSD Value	1.8	0.4	0.7	0.9	1.4	0.5	1.1	0.5	0.6	1.7	2.1	0.8	1.0	0.6	0.8	1.2	1.0	1.4	1.0	1.0	0.6	1.3	0.9	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.2

* — Commercially available in the U.S. in 1998.

Field test sites, followed by soil texture, soil pH, pounds of nitrogen applied per 1,000 square feet, mowing height in inches and irrigation practiced:

AR1 — Fayetteville, Ark., silt loam and silt, 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 1.6-2.0, to prevent stress.

GA1 — Griffin, Ga., sandy clay loam, 5.6-6.0, 3.1-4.0, 2.1-2.5, to prevent stress.

IA1 — Ames, Iowa, sandy clay loam, 7.1-7.5, 2.1-3.0, 2.1-2.5, to prevent stress.

IL1 — Urbana, Ill., silt loam and silt, 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 2.1-2.5, to prevent stress.

IL2 — Carbondale, Ill., silty clay loam, 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent dormancy.

IN1 — West Lafayette, Ind., silt loam and silt,

6.6-7.0, 3.1-4.0, 0.6-1.0, to prevent stress.

KS1 — Manhattan, Kan., silt loam and silt, 6.6-7.0, 3.1-4.0, 0.6-1.0, to prevent stress.

KY1 — Lexington, Ky., silt loam and silt, 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 1.1-1.5, only during severe stress.

MD1 — Silver Spring, Md., sandy loam, 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 0.0-0.5, to prevent stress.

ME1 — Orono, Maine, N/A.

MI1 — East Lansing, Mich., sandy loam, 7.1-7.5, 1.1-2.0, 3.1-3.5, to prevent stress.

MO1 — Columbia, Mo., silt clay loam, 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent dormancy.

MO3 — St. Louis, Mo., silty clay loam, 6.6-7.0, 4.1-5.0, 2.6-3.0, to prevent dormancy.

NE1 — Lincoln, Neb., silty clay loam, 7.1-7.5, 5.1-6.0, 0.0-0.5, to prevent stress.

NJ1 — North Brunswick, N.J., sandy loam, 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent stress.

NJ2 — Adelphia, N.J., sandy loam, 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 1.6-2.0, to prevent stress.

OH1 — Columbus, Ohio, silty clay loam, 6.6-7.0, 2.1-3.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent stress.

OK1 — Stillwater, Okla., silty clay loam, 6.6-7.0, 3.1-4.0, 2.1-2.5, to prevent stress.

PA1 — University Park, Pa., silt loam and silt, 6.6-7.0, 1.1-2.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent stress.

QE1 — Quebec, Canada, loamy sand, 7.1-7.5, 0.0-1.0, 2.6-3.0, no irrigation.

RI1 — Kingston, R.I., silt loam and silt, 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent stress.

UB1 — Beltsville, Md., (high mowing), silt loam and silt, 5.6-6.0, 3.1-4.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent dormancy.

UB2 — Beltsville, Md., (low mowing), 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 0.0-0.5, to prevent stress.

VA1 — Blacksburg, Va., silt loam and silt, 6.1-6.5, 5.1-6.0, 2.1-2.5, only during severe stress.

WA1 — Pullman, Wash., silt loam and silt, 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 1.6-2.0, to prevent stress.

WA3 — Puyallup, Wash., sandy loam, 5.6-6.0, 4.1-5.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent stress.

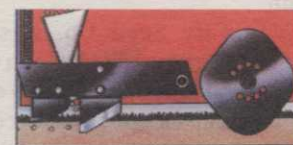
WI1 — Madison, Wis., silt loam and silt, 7.1-7.5, 3.1-4.0, 2.6-3.0, to prevent stress.



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CIRCLE #135

Weeds

Continued from page 1

their mills. In turn, a bag of *Poa*-free seed is going to be at a premium.

"There are a number of things growers can do to get weeds out of the seeds," said Dave Holman, general manager at Advanta Seeds. "It starts in the fields with picking fields clean and following that up with chemical control. But that's where the problem has been this year, agronomic practices haven't worked."

"Without burning you can't properly get rid of that existing seed bank contaminates," said Larry Falk, an agronomist with Corvallis-based Seed Research of Oregon (SRO). "This year, there's nothing more we can do."

In wet and soggy conditions, growers said, the life of an herbicide is shortened considerably and chemical applications become useless.

"There's a developed resistance to the chemicals we've traditionally used," said Jacklin. "Plants have not been given the full doses, so a weed survives and genetically manipulates to resist that kind of hit next time."

"With the loss of field burning there are very narrow windows of opportunity for effective chemical control programs," said Bill Rose, president of Hubbard-based Tee-2-Green/Turf Seed Inc. "You only have about three days to get it on and if you miss that you have a pretty big problem."

According to SRO's Falk, Oregon seed farmers are simply going to have change field practices and experiment with new chemistry in order to react to the problem — that is if Mother Nature fails to cooperate.

"You're going over hundreds of acres going over millions of plants and you have a few that are becoming resistant," said Falk. "This happens when you go with one mode of action."

In the meantime, seed cleaning, both in the fields and in the mills, is going full force.

"*Poa* can be cleaned from the seed when it's conditioned if they have the right

equipment and they go slow enough," said Steve Tubbs, president and owner of Tangent-based Turf Merchants Inc. "Many farmers have been updating equipment and buying machines that can pull the *Poa* out if they miss it in the fields."

But according to Adriel Garay, director of Oregon State University's seed lab, seed cleaning is not only a slow process but there are considerable limitations.

"Farmers can always separate," said Garay, "but the technology is only good if there is a size difference in the seeds. A lot of seeds we produce are quite similar, so there is no way to separate it."

"With perennial ryegrass and tall fescue you're dealing with seed-size difference," said Jacklin, "so at certain levels a cleaner can get the contaminates out in the mill. With the smaller seeded crops, like Kentucky bluegrass, you lose the size advantage and you can't get it out in cleaning line as easily."

Overall, the situation has put a considerable amount of pressure on growers, causing seed marketers to take precautionary, sometimes costly steps.

"While we're running all of our tests, the lots that come through that are *Poa annua* and *Poa trivialis* free are going to be labeled as such," said Skip Lynch, Seed Research of Oregon's technical agronomist. "It's a significant effort and a long way to go to get to a product a customer wants."

Growers urge superintendents to examine seed analysis tags carefully before making purchases this year. "Poa is noxious," said Falk, "so it has to be listed on the tag. The rough stock is not, so it does not have to be listed on the tag, but will be listed under weeds. If a tag shows weeds superintendents really should inquire as to what they are."

As for a projected end to this problem, SRO's Falk believes that a few days in the low 20s next winter would be a good start.

"This was brought on by mother nature and its going to take mother nature to alleviate the problem," said Falk.

When a golf cart is a golf car

Making some sense out of FMVSS No. 100

By BILL SIURU

For years, golfers have used electric and gasoline-power golf carts without the Washington bureaucrats giving them any thought. Then people living in gated communities, largely retirees in retirement communities in the sunbelt, started using them for transportation off the golf course and on public roads. Somewhere along the way, the golf cart got a new title, "Neighborhood Electric Vehicle" or simply NEV.

Realizing a potentially large market, Canada's Bombardier brought out its Bombardier NV[tm] with a top speed of 25 mph that could be operated on and off the golf course.

Seeing an increasing number of golf carts on city streets and recognizing better performing NEV, states like Arizona, California and Florida saw a need for ordinances covering where they could be driven and minimum equipment required. The

William Siuru is an automotive and golf journalist based in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Deere/K-State

Continued from page 45

ing to Porter, Deere's latest product development, a spraying system that works off global positioning systems (GPS), will be part of the equipment mix.

"They can absolutely pinpoint where they want to go with the spray," said Porter. "A lot of pests, insects or weeds, like to come back to the same spot every year. This will help superintendents track where they sprayed, and in turn, they will know where to spray the next year because they'll know where and when its going to show up. Instead of spraying for symptoms they'll be able to spray in advance of those symptoms."

John Deere hopes to announce the GPS spraying system in 1999.

As part of the agreement, John Deere will also be the exclusive supplier to golf courses owned by Jim Colbert and a preferred equipment brand at golf courses managed by Colbert.

Ground-breaking ceremonies for Colbert Hills were held on June 12 on the 1,200-acre site, three or four miles from the football stadium, on the northwest corner of town.

The Jeff Brauer designed course will meander through several valleys, and a few of the holes will have trees, he said, but "the predominant character is konza prairie."

GOLF COURSE NEWS

SUPPLIER BUSINESS

(FMVSS) 100 covering "low-speed vehicles."

Contrary to comediennes on late-night TV shows who joked about golf cart needing air bags and crash testing, Standard 100 is far less draconian. First, it calls out the difference between a "golf car" and a "golf cart." Quoting from the proposed standard, "Golf cart means a motor vehicle, whose speed attainable in 1 mile does not exceed 15 mph, used to convey one or more persons and equipment to play the game of golf in an area designated as a golf course."

Continued on page 54



TourOne's new TourGo, the latest single-rider on the market

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CIRCLE #136

Mister Par keeps golfers cool

Mister Par, a new golf cart misting system that can cool golfers up to 30 degrees, will increase summer traffic on golf courses while helping to protect golfers from dehydration and heat stroke.

Mister Par provides 7-15 hours of continuous misting, uses less than one percent of

the golf cart's battery charge, and mounts quickly and easily on virtually all brands of golf carts. It's available for golf courses, golf cart distributors and for those with private carts. Golf courses have the option of renting the units. For more information, contact 800-278-3263.

CIRCLE #202

Rhone-Poulenc ready with Ronstar 1.5

Rhone-Poulenc is pleased to announce the availability of Chipco Ronstar brand oxadiazon herbicide in 1.5-ounce water soluble packets. The new packet size provides a convenient way to handle small weed control jobs such as spraying around tree wells and fence posts and controlling weeds in ornamental beds or other planted areas in landscapes and along golf courses.

Chipco Ronstar 1.5-ounce water soluble packets are specially suited for back-to-back applications. The applicator can just drop one packet into one gallon of water and begin spraying. Packets begin dissolving upon contact with water. For more information, contact 800-334-9745.

CIRCLE #201

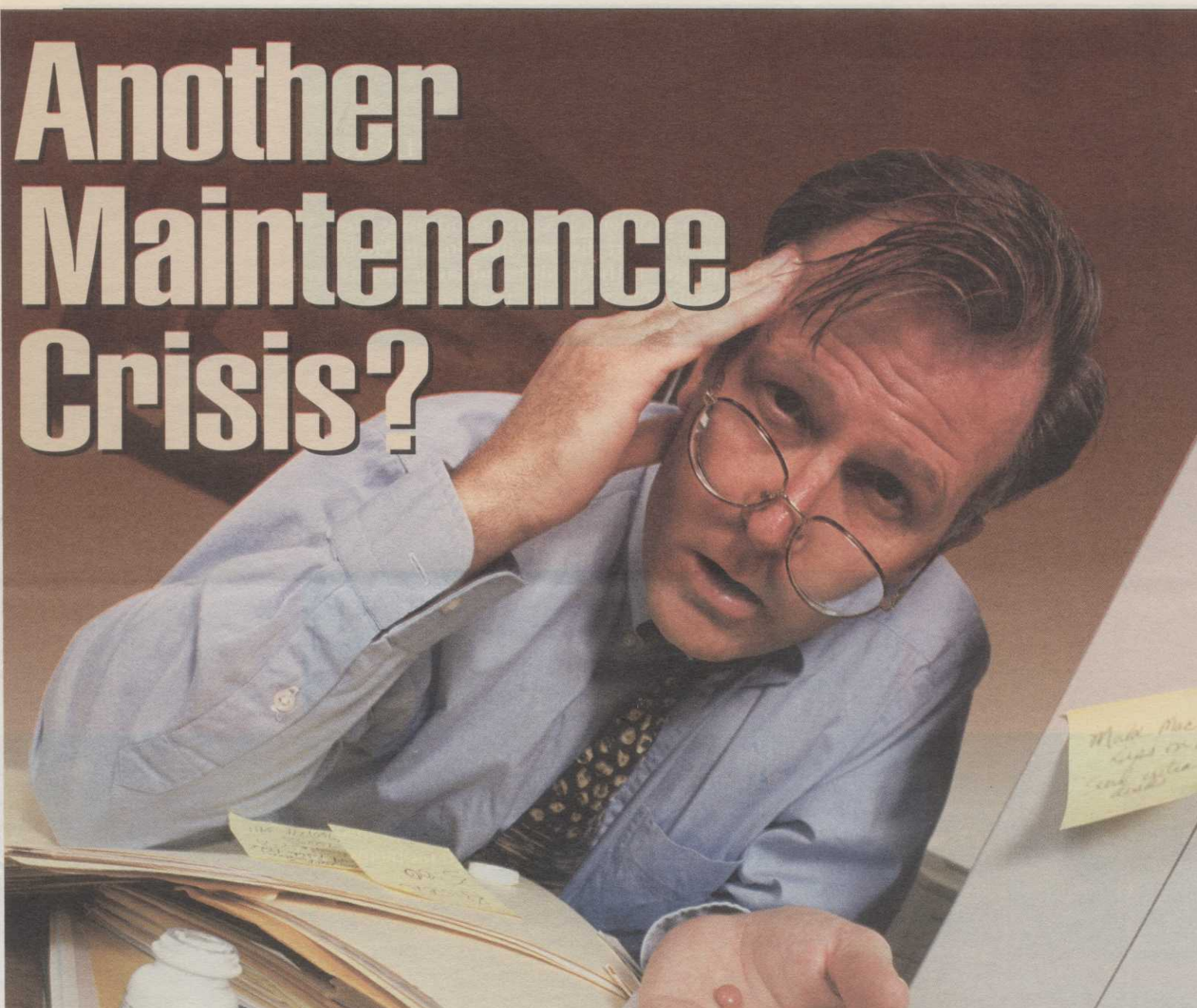
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CIRCLE #203

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CIRCLE #137

Flowtronex/UK

Continued from page 45

Action has made some headway in Germany, Austria, Finland, France and Spain, "but only one or two in each country. Again it's our resources that limit us more than anything," said Hockley.

The first step for Flowtronex Europe will be a facility expansion. Action's 18 employees are currently working in 4,200 square feet. "It's amazing what they pack in," said Brockway. "We're going to triple the size of the facility."

"We've been pretty efficient," said Hockley.

Although Action has been a primarily U.K.-focused company, Brockway plans to meld Action's local manufacturing knowledge with the work that's been done by Martin Goulding, the

"We've been pretty efficient."

—Steve Hockley

company's representative in Germany, in an effort to 'Europeanize' the company.

"Martin probably has more contacts in Europe than we do," said Hockley. "He struggled to sell the American set due to the specifications. In the States you're used to 60 Hz electrical supply, it's all 50 Hz. over here. The 50 Hz. market is worldwide, so hopefully we'll be able to build sets for those markets as well."

"The next key will be to set up representatives and distributors in all the various regions of Europe," said Brockway. "Our vision is to be a truly global company in doing packaged pumping systems. For us to ignore Europe wouldn't really fit our plans."

Flowtronex Europe plans to pick up and continue Action's active distribution of various other pump lines as well.

General Session

Continued from page 1

and Augusta National Golf Club, The First Tee has raised awareness of the need to make golf available and affordable for children of all races and economic backgrounds and others who have largely been unable to experience the game.

Numerous people in the industry have stepped forward with ideas to create new facilities or add to existing ones under the umbrella of The First Tee. Many others — from golf course architects and builders to Tour professionals — are volunteering their time and talents to various projects.

At this year's Public Golf Forum, the *Golf Course News* sponsored conference and expo for developers, owners, managers and superintendents of public-access golf facilities, you can share these new ideas with a specially designed General Session.

The First Tee General Session will follow PGA pro and course designer Greg Norman's keynote address on Oct. 27.

First Tee Executive Director Tod Leiweke will speak, joined by Program Director Detric Holmes and Richmond (Va.) First Tee Foundation founder Fred Tattersall, who organized a First Tee facility being built in Chesterfield County, Va.

Leiweke, 38, was chosen to head the program due to his extensive background in the world of sports. He was executive vice president for two years of Orca Bay Sports & Entertainment in Vancouver, British Columbia, which owns and manages the Vancouver Grizzlies of the National Basketball Association (NBA), the Vancouver Canucks of the National Hockey League, and the 20,000-seat General Motors Place arena.

He had two tours of duty with the NBA's Golden State Warriors and was president of the Houston Rockets of the NBA in 1993-94.

His previous experience with the PGA Tour was as vice president of marketing from 1991-93.

Leiweke will present an overview and update of The First Tee and advice to potential partners. Having gone through the process, Tattersall will present the real-life issues of such a project.

The First Tee Oversight Committee consists of PGA Tour Commissioner Tim Finchem, U.S. Golf Association Immediate Past President Judy Bell, PGA of America CEO Jim Awtrey, LPGA Commissioner Jim Ritts; and Augusta National Golf Club General Manager Jim Armstrong. The honorary chairman is former President George Bush.

For more information on Public Golf Forum, contact United Publications at 207-846-0600.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

Neptune out to "E" liminate pests

The new Model CIS-30 "E" Linator from Neptune combines a Series 500E hydraulic metering pump with a lightweight, 30-gallon tank to offer a portable and economical chemigation system. The "E" Linator allows precise uniform chemical application by using the center pivot as a spray boom. Its small tank is convenient to use and eliminates having to handle large, cumbersome injection systems when applications require only small volumes of chemicals. For more information, contact 800-255-4017.

CIRCLE #204

Ditch Witch increases horizontal power

The new Ditch Witch JT2720 Jet Trac system combines power and automation to be the most efficient and productive horizontal directional boring machine in its class. Engine and hydraulic and drilling fluid systems are built into the compact, self-propelled drill frame. Exclusive new features speed setup and

make boring and pullback faster and more efficient. A 125-horsepower (93kW) turbocharged diesel engine and powerful hydraulics develop 27,000 pounds (12,200 kg) of thrust and pullback. Each function is designed to work with all others to achieve optimum efficiency. For more information, contact 800-654-6481.

CIRCLE #205

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CIRCLE #138

Philippines

Continued from page 11

Back in Manila, the reconstruction of old courses continues. The Wack Wack Golf and Country Club is renovating 18 holes of their 36-hole layout with the help of Brit Stenson and the IMD team. In addition to new lakes, better shaping, and an updated layout the course will also have better drainage, irrigation and turf grass. In order to conserve water, a new water treatment plant has been added to recycle and treat water so that it can be used on the golf course. The renovation

is due to be completed by August 1998.

Nearby, the Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation is planning to incorporate an 18-hole layout within their larger cityscape. The land was a former Filipino Army base and upon its redevelopment by the Metro Pacific Group, the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) mandated that a replacement of the old military golf course be included in the plans. However, the BCDA is failing to come through on their part of the deal—annexing the additional land for the golf course is proving rather difficult and has led to some heated standoffs between

construction crews and local residents. If all goes well the Ronald Fream-designed, inner city, executive style course should be finished by July 2000.

Moving south of Manila, the Tagaytay Highlands Golf and Country Club is looking to add more golf to their existing mega project. They are currently preparing the site for the Richard Biegler-designed Midlands Course which will be decidedly flatter and more golf friendly than the existing Highlands course. The hillside resort will be linked to the lower Midlands resort via a tramway that was imported from Austria. The East course is due to be finished in 1999 and the West course should follow in 2000.

A bit further west from Tagaytay, bursts of unrest have marred the construction of the Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club in Cavite. With the size of the intended project, conflicts with displaced farmers was unavoidable. Angry farmers and land conversion activists have hampered the project and efforts to remove squatters from the land has led to violent retaliation ending when two shapers were shot. Construction has continued on at the 740-hectare site and will eventually boast 72 holes of golf designed by Andy Dye, Greg Norman, Isao Aoki, and Nick Faldo.

They have nine holes of the Faldo and nine holes of the Dye courses open for play at the moment.

Two new courses are slated to begin construction in the coming months. The Tanay Mountain Spa is being developed by a newcomer to the golf business, Universal Rightfield. The Rodney Wright-designed layout near Laguna De Bay is due to start construction in September.

In Cebu, the Ever-Gotesco Holdings Company is looking to add to their empire of golf courses, yacht clubs, and shopping malls with the development of the Evercrest Cebu Golf and Country Club. Following a delay, construction should continue in the coming months on the 122-hectare site that sits in the hills above Cebu City. The full project will include resort and hotel accommodations in addition to the 36-hole golf course. The "plantation" 18, designed by Nick Price, is on line for completion in March 1999 and a "garden" 18 laid out by David Leadbetter will follow.

Despite the multitude of obstacles, new course construction continues. However, it is wise to point out that the proposed scale of many of the projects will likely be cut back and adjusted in keeping with the ongoing recovery of the Philippine economy. Meanwhile, developers of these courses are hoping to hit the ground running when the recovery arrives.

OUTLOOK

There are still many reasons to be bullish on the Philippines golf market. First of all, the market has not disappeared, there is still a large demand for golf that cuts across all levels of the population.

Bill Cornwell, chief consultant for Pacific Golf contends: "There is a great tradition for golf in the Philippines, due to the American influence, and the growing middle class mindset. More people want a place to get away from the city, a place that gives them prestige."

Further, the economic collapse has solidified the market. Gone are the days of speculation and over-valued club shares. The market has matured and without the cost that has been seen in other Asian countries.

"The advantage is that it happened before the market expanded too much so it is helping to pressure specific faults within the industry without causing too much pain," claims Eric Mannanquil of Santa Lucia Real Estate. The benefits of this are clearly evident in the secondary shares market where the volume of trading has stayed active despite the economic slowdown.

Clearly, with an economy that is still recovering and the added contingencies such as the recent transfer of presidential power, the continuing Philippine Airlines strike, and the increasing volatility of the currency markets in Asia, there is enough uncertainty floating around to make investors and developers more than a bit cautious.

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Letter from Philippines

Continued from page 10

fairways bunkers are trenched by hand. All the spoils are bagged and hand-carried, and gravel and sand is even sometimes placed by hand. It's also not unheard of to hand plant entire fairways. Seventy-five women line up across the fairway and away they go. Each lady has a sack of sprigs and a putty knife. Each sprig is manually planted and a fairway can be grassed in a day with an enormous success rate. Nearly every sprig takes.

There's a term here: "Philippine Time." This is applied to situations where things don't happen exactly when scheduled. This means 10:00 a.m. meetings start at 10:30, deliveries promised first thing in the morning show up around noon, and jobs to be finished in a couple of days usually take three or four.

My first job in The Philippines was an 18-hole rebuild at the old naval station at Subic Bay. The old course was in the middle of a rain forest and jungle. It's one of The Philippines' last virgin rain forests standing.

It came complete with native jungle tribes, wild pigs, cobras, pythons, monitor lizards, parrots and fruit bats the size of small dogs. It was like working on the Discovery Channel every day.

The surroundings were spectacular, which was a nice offset because the work was a real trial at times. Golf construction is still relatively new to the Philippines and this fact is reflected by the inconsistent materials. Sand and gravel deliveries had to be monitored daily. What usually showed up in the truck was nothing like the sample we had approved. The minute you stopped checking your materials, a dirty load would be delivered. The main reason for this is the processing operations. Most of the sand and gravel is hand-sifted and loaded. Without proper screening plants, consistent loads were a rare commodity.

An additional headache at Subic was the weather. Monsoons and typhoons plagued our construction efforts and earthmoving activities. I've come to refer to seasons in Subic as the muddy season and the dusty season. You're either slogging through mud or coughing up dust.

It was at times like trying to breath through a wet wool blanket. Mud slides, washouts and flooding were our main concerns. Despite the adversities, we were able to complete our construction efforts in 12 months.

My current job is at a Graham Marsh design on the tiny island of Boracay. Here, problems are quite different, yet equally difficult. Being on an island poses unique dilemmas. We have to bring in all materials and equipment by boat and barge. I've lost barges to pirates, had barges sink trying to dock and, of course, getting stuck on sand bars is common place.

Like Subic, the crew in Boracay is very good — hard-working individuals who are willing to put in a full day. The work is tough and their living conditions are less than what we're accustomed to. Most of the crew live in houses made of thatch and bamboo. Many don't have running water or power at their places. Despite their situations, their attitudes are amazingly upbeat.

I've developed a great deal of respect for The Philippines and its culture. I've also learned so many things since working here over the years. My only hope is that I've been able to teach my crew half as much as the Philippines has taught me.

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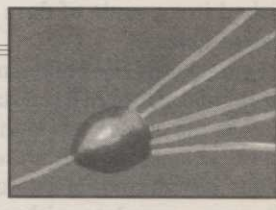
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When is a cart a car?

Continued from page 47

In contrast, "Golf car means a motor vehicle, whose speed attainable in 1 mile exceeds 15 mph but does not exceed 25 mph, used to convey one or more persons and equipment to play the game of golf in an area designated as a golf course."

Also defined is a "Low-speed vehicle means a motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, whose speed attainable in 1 mile does not exceed 25 mph."

Most important the standard applies to golf cars and low-speed vehicles, namely NEVs, operated on the public streets, roads, and highways. It does NOT apply to golf carts which cannot go faster than 15 mph.

The standard requires the following equipment on golf cars and LSVs - headlamp, front and rear turn signal lamps, taillamps, stop lamps and one red reflex reflector on each side as far to the rear as practicable and located not less than 15 inches nor more than 60 inches above the road surface.

They must also have an exterior mirror mounted on the driver's side of the vehicle and either an exterior mirror mounted on the passenger's side of the vehicle or an interior mirror, parking brake and a windshield marked "AS 1" by its prime glazing material manufacturer.

Also required are Type 1 or Type 2 seat belts conforming to Sec. 571.209 Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 209, Seat belt assemblies, installed at each designated seating position. Finally, there must be a label permanently affixed, visible to the operator when seated, which reads: "WARNING: This vehicle must not be operated on the public roads at a speed more than 25 mph." There is neither requirements for air bags or crash testing.

Note there are some NEVs on the market such as the Gizmo, Sparrow, Twike and City-elthat are not governed by the standards. That is because they have only three wheel and qualify as motorcycles.

Are safety requirements required on golf cars? Probably not. During hearings during formulation of the new standard, only one instance of an accident with a golf cart was reported. A teenager joy riding in a stolen golf cart lost control and rolled it. However, one plus is that there will be a national standard for low-speed vehicles rather than a hodge-podge of regulations issued by states and even individual communities.

Periodicals postage paid at Yarmouth, Maine, and additional mailing office. *Golf Course News* (ISSN 1054-0644) is published monthly by United Publications, Inc., 106 Lafayette St., P.O. Box 997, Yarmouth, ME 04096. Phone number is 207-846-0600.

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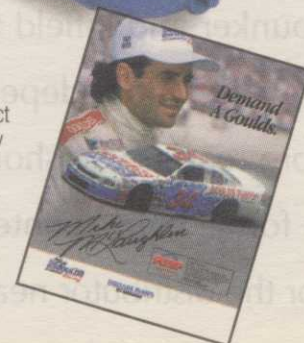
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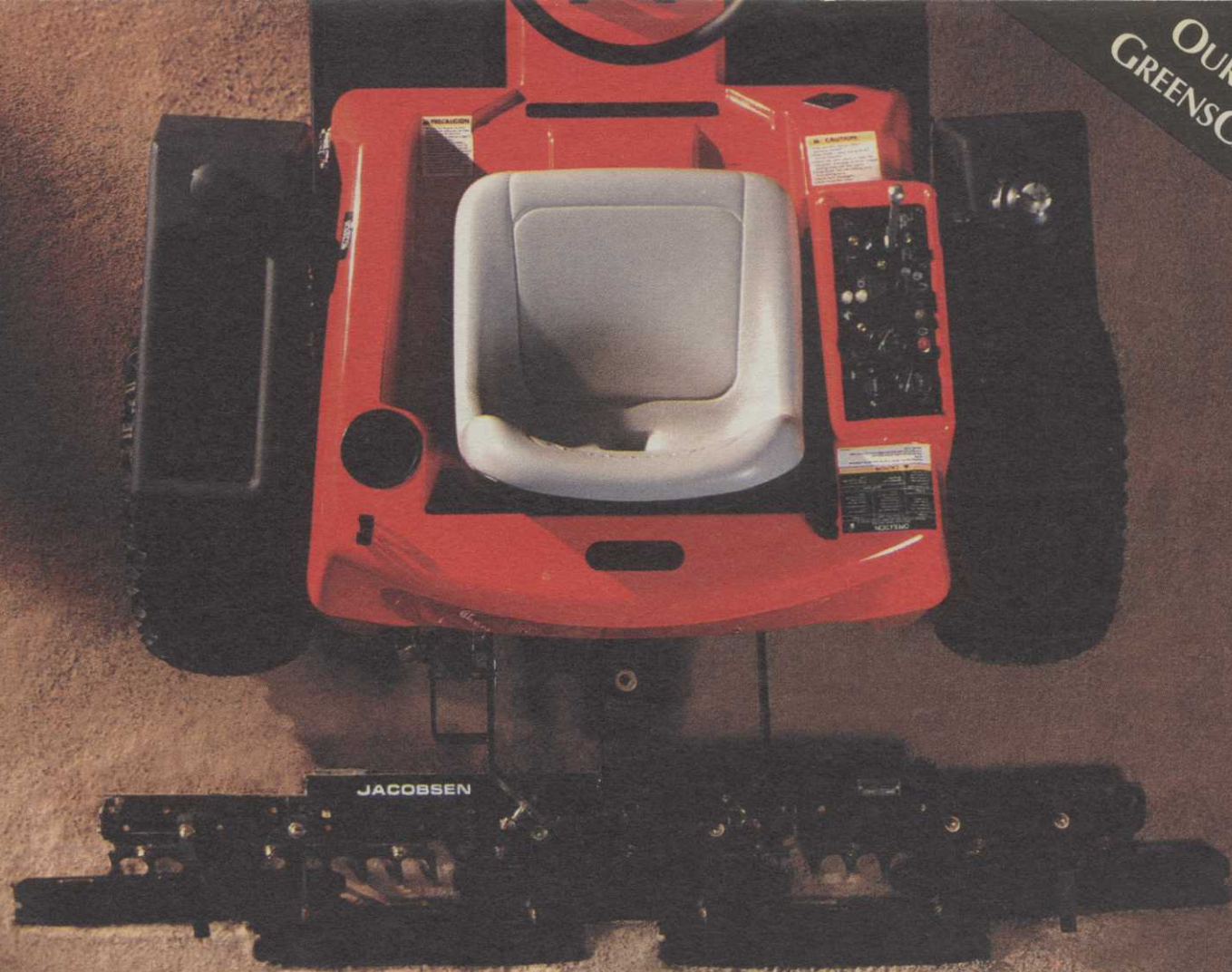
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