

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



WEISKOPF RETURNS TO BROKEN TOP
Tom Weiskopf (left) surveys Broken Top with golf pro Andy Heinly, 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.

COURSE MAINTENANCE
Iowa's green industry influences policies 13
North Shore CC tests a major step forward 21
"Going vertical" saves storage space 25

COURSE DEVELOPMENT
Cities ranked by golf availability 3
Seaford mixes real and dog legs 29
First Tee, BLM sign pact 32

COURSE MANAGEMENT
Meadowbrook, ClubCorp near Philly agreement ... 8
DPC makes it with major leaguers 39
Forbes named NCA president 42

SUPPLIER BUSINESS
Flowtronex invades Europe 42
The golf cart evolution continues 47
New products abound 48

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

"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

Continued on page 35



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-

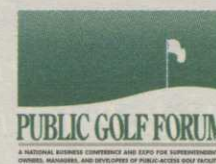
Continued on page 42

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



A NATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE AND EXPO FOR ENVIRONMENTAL, OWNERS, MANAGERS, AND DEVELOPERS OF PUBLIC-ACCESS GOLF FACILITIES

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 32