

# GOLF COURSE NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

**NTEP QUALITY RATINGS:  
PERENNIAL RYEGRASS**  
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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

"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

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## 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-

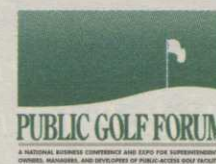
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## — The First Tee takes first strides —

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.

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## General Session

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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 Awtry, 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.

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## 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.

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