

BRIEFS



**TWEDT CITED FOR STEWARDSHIP**

DES MOINES, Iowa — Ottumwa Country Club superintendent Gary Twedt has been honored with the Environmental Stewardship Award by the Iowa Alliance of Environmental Concerns (Ia AE). It was presented during the 64th Iowa Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show here Jan. 27. Twedt was given the award for his environmental sound management practices and public participation in educating people about turfgrass and the industry.

**USGA SETS PHOENIX CONCLAVE**

PHOENIX — The United States Golf Association (USGA) Green Section is conducting a regional conference at Phoenix Country Club on March 18, focusing on a



variety of topics from rye-grass and bentgrass to water irrigation surveys, water quality and greens committees. The 7:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. conference will feature talks by USGA Construction Education Director Jim Moore and Regional Affairs Manager Ron Readl USGA Foundation Fellow Tea Dixon, Dr. Joe Duich of Penn State University; International Sees' Craig Edminster; Center for Irrigation Technology Director David Zoldoske; and Arizona Country Club Green Chairman Dr. Paul Rowe.

**SPEAKERS PROGRAM EXPANDS**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, Professional Lawn Care Association of America and RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment) report that their Ambassador Speakers Program has expanded into four Northeastern states. The joint outreach program motivates and prepares industry representatives to educate the public about the green industry's environmental benefits and to address consumer concerns.

**BROWN HEADS ROCKY MOUNTAIN**

The Rocky Mountain Golf Course Superintendents Association has elected a new board of directors, headed by President Dave Brown of Flatirons Golf Course (GC). Vice President is John Fitzgibbons of Meadows GC, and Secretary-Treasurer is Jim Wilkins of Arvada GC. On the board are Lee Terry of Pinehurst Country Club (CC), Mike Brennan of LaPlata Investments, Bobby Murtaugh of Perry Park CC, Rusty Oetker of Soil Horizons, Doug Jones of the city of Grant Junction, Gregg Blew of Wellshire GC and Doug DeVries of Montrose GC.

# Seawall woes keep Pebble Beach busy

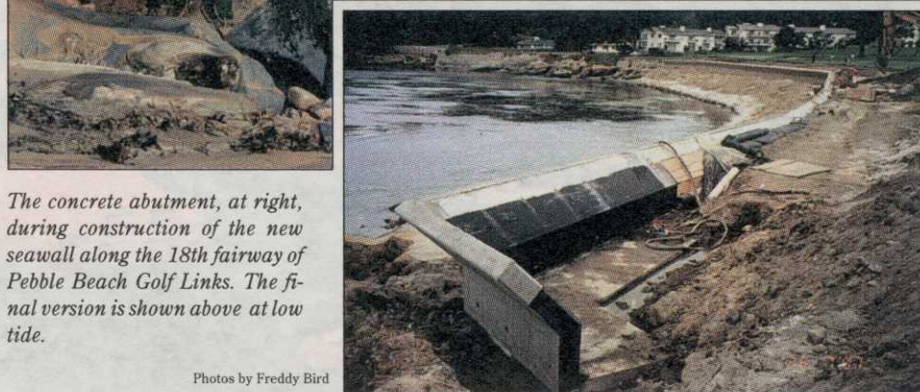
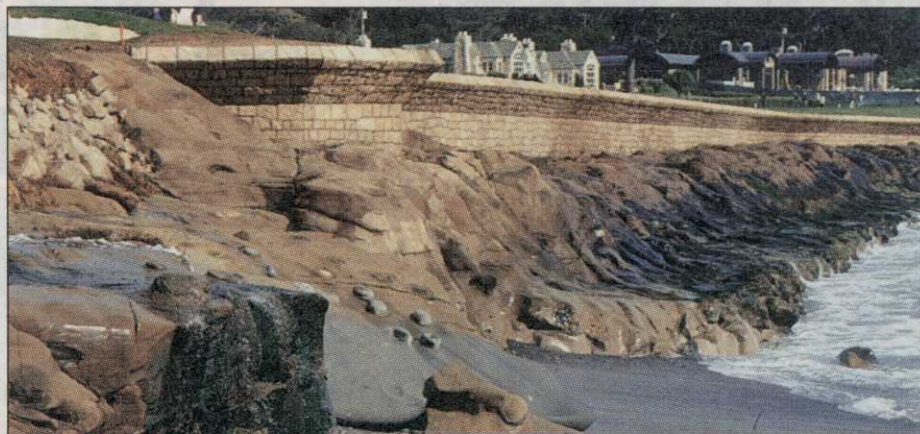
By DOUG SAUNDERS

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Pebble Beach Golf Links is considered one of the greatest golf courses in the world and a strong part of its lure is its proximity to the turbulent Pacific Ocean. Golf holes literally cling to the cliffs overlooking the blue waters while the pounding surf adds to the mystique of the course.

The same relentless sea, meanwhile, works hard to eat away this golfing treasure. In the last year the Pebble Beach Company has begun a series of projects to not only determine the threat to the coastal links but also rectify the actions of nature where possible.

The first project, the construction of a formidable sea wall along the 18th fairway, was completed last fall and has already been tested dramatically by the El Nino weather that has plagued the Central California coastline for the last two months. The wall also received notoriety during the recent AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro Am as the heavy surf sent waves over the wall and on to the fairway.

Television cameras and commentators focused on the new wall as waves spilled over the wall and flooded the bunker 110 yards from the green. Competitors that hit their second shots near the coast had to be careful not to



The concrete abutment, at right, during construction of the new seawall along the 18th fairway of Pebble Beach Golf Links. The final version is shown above at low tide.

Photos by Freddy Bird

get splashed by the surf that occasionally slobbered over the wall. The wall itself accentuated the normal wave action lending itself to dramatic camera views and many questions as to the effectiveness of the wall itself.

"We hired a firm to make a comprehensive study of the erosion of land along the nearly two miles of coastline that Pebble Beach sits on. Their findings showed that we lose on the average 4

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# Fla. law sends researchers rushing for nematode cure

By MARK LESLIE

NAPLES, Fla. — Turf-killing nematodes are a problem for golf course superintendents in the South and, in Florida, where the government has drastically reduced application of the major remedy, it appears nobody has the answer for the pest.

"There are a lot of claims, and we try them all," said Gary Grigg, superintendent at Royal Poinciana Golf Club here. "But none of them work since the state cut back on the label for Nematicur."

Bayer Corp.'s Nematicur has been the mainstay in the ongoing battle against nematodes, microscopic roundworms that attack plant roots. But a major fish kill at a golf course on the East Coast of Florida changed all that. After the accident — from misapplication of the highly toxic Nematicur — the state cut in half the

application rate, greatly reduced when and how many acres could be treated at once, and forbid people from re-entering a treated area for 24 hours.

Many companies have introduced products to replace Nematicur, but the search for success is still on.

"Unfortunately, there have been no silver bullets," said Dr. Robin Giblin-Davis, an entomologist and nematologist at the University of Florida at Ft. Lauderdale. "We've evaluated a lot of different materials that people claim have anti-nematode effects and we have not seen anything that works effectively."

"The more we look, the more chance we have of finding the Achilles heel. But,



in the final analysis, I am not encouraged."

Grigg said DuPont's Telone is showing "some effectiveness," and he has found "a quick response from a couple of products, but the nematode population doesn't stay knocked back. In two or three weeks the nematodes are back."

"I have 36 holes and spent \$40,000 last year on nematode control and felt I had bad results all the way around," he said.

"We treat every Monday. The soil temperatures this time of year [winter] are cool and they're not so much a problem. They're worse in early summer, coming out of the winter. May is a bad month."

As effective as Nematicur was at its origi-

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# Role of digital mapping expected to grow

By KEVIN P. CORBLEY

In this final article on the uses of Geographic Information System (GIS) and Global Positioning System (GPS) technologies on the golf course, we look into the future of digital mapping applica-

**LAST OF 3 PARTS**

tions. GPS, GIS and other digital mapping technologies are now commonly used in numerous land management businesses, and golf course management will be no different. Larry Rodgers, president of Larry Rodgers Design in

Lakewood, Colo., expects digital mapping will boom on golf courses in the next several years.

"These mapping techniques have already been proven to improve worker efficiency and enhance revenues in major industries such as agriculture," said Rodgers. "Look for course superintendents to start borrowing technologies from the farmer."

To facilitate his irrigation design business, Rodgers has been using GPS

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