

GOLF COURSE NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

A UNITED PUBLICATION
VOLUME 10, NUMBER 11
NOVEMBER 1998 • \$5.50

INSIDE

Design & Construction

Take a closer look into the trends that are driving golf course development into the future 30

Jack Speaks on Architecture

After a round at his latest track, Jack Nicklaus sits down to discuss his work with *GCN* 21



BOHANNAN TAKES OFF ON HIS OWN

Terry Bohannon, a 20-year veteran of the golf development business, leaves Asia and Paragon Construction and goes it alone as Live Oak Golf Construction. See story on page 21.

COURSE MAINTENANCE

Mr. Certification: Adam Feltman 11
Whole lotta dredgin' goin' on 13
NTEP final results in on bents 19

COURSE DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT

Stockton, Baird team up for design 21
CSM lays down a track in Titleist Town 24
Joe Freeman: Maine boy makes good 29

COURSE MANAGEMENT

Jeff Carlson starts own management co. 33
SunCor gets busy in Scottsdale 34
ClubLink may buy Glen Abbey 35

SUPPLIER BUSINESS

Continental Bridge buys Atlas 39
Lebanon continues rapid line expansion 39
MACH 2 lands N.Y. registration 40

John Deere looks skyward

By MICHAEL LEVANS

RALEIGH, N.C. — With its recent acquisition of Charlestown, Mass.-based Player Systems Corp., manufacturer of the SkyLinks golf course management technology that utilizes the global position system (GPS), John Deere has taken a long look up into the future.

"John Deere now has the ability to leverage the GPS technology across different applications," said Shawn Phillips, new general manager of Player Systems. "The GPS technology has been limited to the golf car.

Continued on page 41

Diggin' golf in Beantown

Golf and traffic benefit from Boston's notorious 'Big Dig'

By PETER BLAIS

BOSTON — Developer Charles Geilich and course architect John Sanford have coupled the interests of a major Boston road construction project and a nearby landfill closure to develop a 27-hole golf course in suburban Boston.

Boston's "Big Dig" project, a multi-

year undertaking designed to speed traffic through Massachusetts' capital city, planned to spend \$300 million to dispose of the millions of cubic yards of dirt excavated from the construction site.

Meanwhile, Quincy and Milton officials were planning to close their

Continued on page 27



An aerial shot of the Quarry Hills site and the Boston skyline in the distance.

La. to grow golf image

By PETER BLAIS

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana officials plan to approach the state Legislature with a master plan to finance construction of seven to 10 courses throughout the Pelican State, making it more attractive to visiting and native golfers.

Representatives from Gov. Michael Foster's office, the state Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, and golf industry representatives Thomas Martty of Martty Golf Management and Linda Curtis of The Sabine River Authority, which is building a new course, met to discuss the possibility early this fall and plan to meet again in November.

A joint commission which would research the state's golfing needs and the costs involved will likely be formed, according to tourism department

Communications Director Jennifer Romero.

"The state has put together a group of people interested in developing golf courses in Louisiana that is a very enthusiastic and committed group that wants to get something done," Martty said. "There is a pent-up demand for better daily-fee golf in certain areas of Louisiana."

Louisiana ranks 48th in

Continued on page 28

L-93 holds it own in NTEPs

By MARK LESLIE

BELTSVILLE, Md. — While the A and G series of bentgrasses have been grabbing the headlines the past couple of years, L-93 has quietly taken the grand prize in the final report of the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program tests for putting-green bents.



"L-93 has really taken off big-time," said Dr. Rich Hurley, director of research at Lofts Seed in Bound Brook, N.J. "We have good seed production, and superintendents are following the test results."

Those test results put L-93 atop Penn A-4, Penn A-1 by a mean average of 6.6 to 6.5 in the final results of the NTEP trials which began in 1993.

Continued on page 18

KOLLSTAR GOLF CO. UP TO A DOZEN COURSES IN EIGHT MONTHS



The Ocean Course at Cabo del Sol, Los Cabos, Mexico, is a KollStar-owned and managed property. To learn more about this fast-growing company, see story page 33.

La. targets golf

Continued from page 1

the country in terms of number of courses and has watched nearby states like Alabama (Robert Trent Jones Trail), Tennessee (Bear Trace) and Mississippi (Magnolia Trace) become involved in course construction as a way to attract golfers.

"I've seen the effect of Louisi-

ana people going to Alabama spending money hand over fist on golf," said James Leitz, head professional at semiprivate Pinewood Country Club in Slidell, located 35 miles north of New Orleans. Leitz said at least 10 Pinewood members own condominiums in Gulf Shores, Ala., where they go to play on that state's courses and beaches.

"These upscale public facilities, when built and managed

properly like the Robert Trent Jones Trail courses, are an attraction. There's no doubt I'm seeing money from Louisiana being spent in Alabama. I'd like to keep those people here."

"I don't look at it as a huge amount of direct competition. It would just heighten the quality of golf everywhere. The more people who say 'let's play golf in Louisiana' the better."

Romero said officials have ex-

pressed interest in various levels of courses, ranging from affordable public layouts to more upscale, resort-type facilities.

"It will be a little price driven," Marty said. "You can't do an Augusta at every location. But if you do nice, high-quality daily-fee courses that provide services we aren't used to seeing in Louisiana at daily-fee courses, and do them in the right locations, it will be highly successful."

Louisiana architect Jim Lipe, who is working on the four Jack Nicklaus Bear Trace courses being built near state parks in Tennessee, said: "It's a good idea if they do the courses in a first-class way. Anything less won't work."

Leitz said quality courses that visitors and native Louisianans play elsewhere have forced course operators in the Pelican State to improve their own layouts. Since converting from a private to a semiprivate club four years ago, Pinewood has built a driving range, undertaken lake and tee construction, improved drainage and conducted a master plan under the direction of course architect Bill Bergen.

"Ninety percent of the golf courses being built now are semiprivate or public," Leitz said. "Twenty years ago you joined a private club if you wanted to play a course that was worth a darn, down here. Now those [upscale public] facilities have pushed the envelope for private and semiprivate clubs, like ours, to change and improve. A guy goes and plays the Robert Trent Jones Trail and comes back and asks, 'Why aren't our fairways that good?' You tell him that's 419 Bermuda and we're playing on old common. Or they've got irrigation and we don't. It just heightens everyone's awareness of golf."

The state officials' plan is to build the new courses over the next five to 10 years on state-owned or donated land near state parks and other accessible locations. Officials envision courses costing in the \$5 million to \$6 million range, with the state and private developers contributing to the projects.

"We have a lot of wetlands issues in Louisiana, especially in the southern part of the state," Leitz said. "A lot of the state parks are in or near wetlands. Maybe the state can clear those hurdles easier than a private citizen could. They are going to have to convince the people that it is better to take 150 acres out of a wildlife refuge and make a golf course out of it. They won't have any trouble convincing me that it's better. But they might have trouble convincing people who don't know anything about golf."

The new Cypress Bend Golf Club at Toledo Bend in Sabine Parish and the proposed Tournament Players Club course near Bayou Segnette State Park could get the ball rolling.

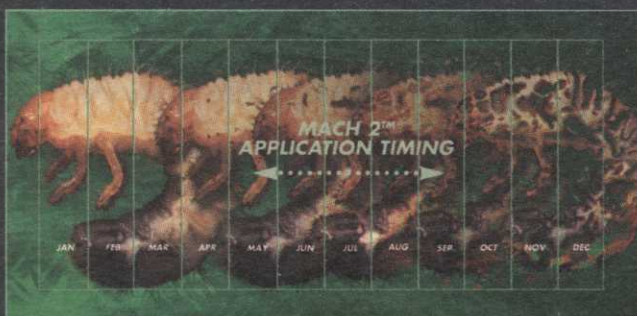
Tourism Department Secretary Phillip Jones said courses could be built next year in Mandeville at Fontainebleau State Park in the southern part of the state and on Lake Clairborne in north Louisiana between Ruston and Shreveport.

"Building near state parks is a good way to go," Lipe agreed.

The state would seek a professional management firm to operate any new layout.

ROHMID

PREVENT GRUBS. STOP THEM IN THEIR TRACKS. OR MAKE SURE IT'S NOT EVEN AN ISSUE.



enemy insects all season long. Grubs. Cutworms.

Armyworms. Sod webworms. Plus, odorless

MACH 2™ is easy to apply. You don't even have to water it in immediately.

So don't let grubs control your grounds, or your schedule. Depend on MACH 2™ Turf Insecticide.

It's all you need to prevent or cure.

For more information or for the distributor nearest you, call 1-888-764-6432.

Now you can control grubs preventatively or curatively. With a single application. Only with new MACH 2™ Turf Insecticide.

MACH 2 is a powerful killer with a new chemistry that accelerates the molting process of target insects.

Just hours after ingesting MACH 2™, the insect stops feeding. Then it dies beneath the surface in 2 to 3 weeks. It's that simple.

With MACH 2™ Turf Insecticide, you'll kill target

MACH 2™
TURF INSECTICIDE

ALL YOU NEED
TO PREVENT OR CURE.