

GOLF COURSE NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

A UNITED PUBLICATION
VOLUME 11, NUMBER 12
DECEMBER 1999 • \$5.50

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Y2K

As the millennium nears, so does the Y2K computer bug. Find out what could go wrong and what it will take to reach compliance 17



NICKLAUS ARCHITECT BRUCE BORLAND PERISHES
Bruce Borland, right here with Jack Nicklaus, was among the passengers in Payne Stewart's Lear jet which crashed Oct. 25. See story, page 9.

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NEWSPAPER

Wadsworth to receive Don Rossi Award

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Brent Wadsworth, touted by many as the inventor of the golf course construction industry, will receive the Don A. Rossi Award for the year 2000 from the Golf Course Builders Association of America (GCBAA). The award will be presented Feb. 18 at the GCBAA's annual awards dinner in New Orleans.

Wadsworth is the first golf course builder to receive the award, which was inaugurated by the GCBAA in 1991 to honor its late executive director, Don Rossi.

"Going into the millennium, we wanted to honor the man who invented the golf course construction business," said James J. Kirchdorfer,



Brent Wadsworth

Continued on page 10

Leiweke leaving First Tee Program

By MARK LESLIE

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — Tod Leiweke, executive director of the First Tee program, has officially been named president of the National Hockey League's new Minnesota Wild expansion team.

Leiweke, who had spearheaded the First Tee nearly since its inception in November 1997, was expected to join the team by December.

Director of Resources Len Stachitis



Tod Leiweke

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THEN AND NOW: A LOOK BACK AT THE SUPERINTENDENTS' TRADE

In a special section, former Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) and Golf Collectors Society President Mel Lucas, former GCSAA Director of Publications Clay Loyd, and former GCSAA President and Acting Executive Director Palmer Maples weigh in on 1) the history of golf course maintenance equipment; 2) the evolution of the job of the greenkeeper/superintendent; and 3) a throw-back to "real golf," Oakhurst Links golf course in West Virginia. Audubon International, meanwhile, names its Top 200 Environmentally Conscious Golf Courses. See pages 11-16.

Rye suit reaches fed'l court

By ANDREW OVERBECK

EUGENE, Ore. — The Perennial Ryegrass Bargaining Association (PRBA) has filed lawsuits against Turf-Seed and Seed Research of Oregon (SRO), maintaining that they violated the Agriculture Fair Trade Practices Act of 1967 by sending letters to PRBA members demanding a price for tournament-quality perennial ryegrass seed below the PRBA established price.

The 260-member PRBA, which represents approximately half of the ryegrass growers in Oregon, first filed complaints against each company in Oregon state court but both cases have since been transferred. The complaint against Turf-Seed has been refiled in federal court and, in November, the complaint against SRO was in the process of

being refiled in federal court.

Meanwhile, Turf-Seed filed a counterclaim in federal court Nov. 3, alleging that the PRBA is acting improperly because not all of its members are producers or farmers — some are seed dealers, or board members and stock holders in seed dealers.

"We take the position," said Michael Martinis, Turf-Seed's lead attorney, "that the PRBA is not entitled to the limited Anti-Trust Act exemption that they claim to have by Oregon and federal statute." Turf-Seed, thus, considers all contracts or agreements of the PRBA void.

According to the complaint the PRBA filed in federal court on Sept. 20 against Turf-Seed, the letter that the company sent to growers on July

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ClubCorp obtains additional \$300M from Cypress

By PETER BLAIS

DALLAS — The Cypress Group LLC, a New York-based private equity firm, has committed to invest \$300 million in ClubCorp.

Said Robert Dedman Jr., chief executive officer of ClubCorp: "We examined a variety of alternatives to support the growth initiatives we intend to pursue, and we found that Cypress was the most compatible choice for us. ClubCorp has been a leader in consolidating our industry, and we believe today's investment from Cypress will position us to continue to proactively take advantage of that trend through the growth of our existing properties and the acquisition of others, both in the U.S. and abroad."

What are those growth initiatives ClubCorp will pursue?



Palmilla, on the Sea of Cortez in Los Cabos, Mexico, is a ClubCorp property.

"There are a number of opportunities in the marketplace for further consolidation domestically and internationally," answered Gerry

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Wadsworth chosen

Continued from page 1

president of ISCO Industries, Inc., and chairman of the selection committee. "To be sure, there were contractors who built great golf courses even before the beginning of this century, but the good ones each worked exclusively with just one architect. Brent found a way to give any competent architect what he wanted.

"And to this day, he keeps setting new standards in construction."

Wadsworth, 70, began his career as a golf course architect after obtaining a degree in landscape architecture from the University of Illinois. He worked briefly in the office of Robert Bruce Harris and then, following service with the U.S. Air Force during the Korean Conflict, he formed a golf course design firm with Edward L. Packard.

In 1958 he created Wadsworth Golf Construction Co. "to fill a void since very few people were specializing in golf course construction and there was a general lack

of devotion on the part of contractors to accomplish what the architect was trying to achieve," Wadsworth said from his office in suburban Chicago. "Besides, I wanted to get back to my roots."

Four decades later, Wadsworth Golf Construction Co. had completed 505 projects from three principal offices — Chicago, Phoenix and Tampa Bay — and satellite offices near Philadelphia and San Francisco.

There is no secret to his success, Wadsworth maintains.

"I applied the basic elements of good business practice, selecting good, hard-working people who became devoted employees," he said. "And I always try to do the right thing."

"With Brent Wadsworth, you absolutely know that the job will be done right, that you will stay there until you've done your part of it right, that it will be done on time and on budget," said ISCO's Kirchdorfer, who has supplied irrigation products for many Wadsworth projects. "And you know you'll get paid."

Overbeck comment

Continued from page 9

Innovation does not however require new technology. AquaSO2 has adapted existing agricultural technology with its SO2 generator. The machine improves soil and water conditions on golf courses and allows them to better use irrigation resources and reduce the amount of chemical applications.

Not to be lost in the shuffle are advancements made on the alternative energy front. Metallic Power made a strong entry with its Zinc/Air battery which recharges quickly, is recyclable and contains seven times the energy of a conventional lead/acid battery. The company is working with Toro and Textron on prototypes.

Overshadowing these advancements, at least at the moment, is the Oct. 28 release of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) preliminary risk assessment for chlorpyrifos — known to superintendents as Dursban.

The report states that children, as well as workers who apply chlorpyrifos-based chemicals, could be exposed to enough of the toxin to harm their central nervous systems. Predictably, this has touched off a two-way battle between the pro-environment camp and the companies who produce and use the chemical.

The Washington, D.C.-based watchdog Environmental Working Group wasted little time declaring support for the EPA's position, admonishing: "Dursban must be banned."

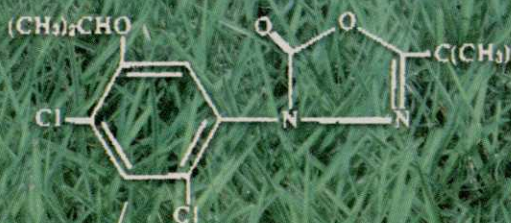
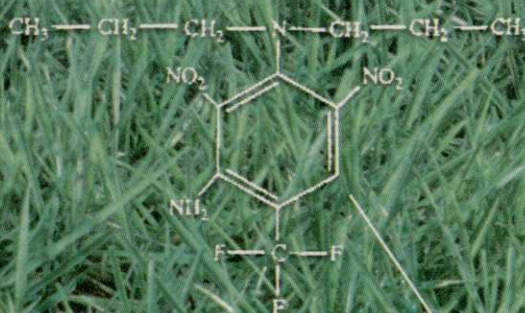
Meanwhile, primary chlorpyrifos producer Dow Agro-Sciences maintains in a recent fact sheet that the EPA risk assessment contains "numerous errors and omissions of critical data that significantly skew the results."

Although chlorpyrifos-based products have hundreds of applications from agricultural pesticides to residential insecticides, you can bet that the media attention regarding the potential dangers of Dursban will put added pressure on the golf course industry.

The 60-day public comment period has begun and any EPA use restrictions on Dursban will follow next spring. Stay tuned.



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