

GOLF COURSE NEWS

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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

Continued on page 38

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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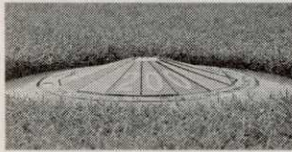
Golf Course Marketplace

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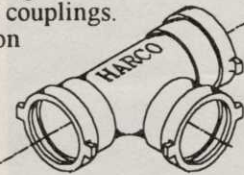
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Leiweke leaves First Tee program

Continued from page 1

is interim executive director and hopes to take over the reins permanently. Having spent the previous 10 years in the consulting and fund-raising business, Stachitis began as a consultant to the First Tee and "became so smitten with it, that I joined it," he said.

First Tee's purpose is to create facilities and programs that make golf more affordable and accessible, with a strong emphasis on introducing youths of all races and economic backgrounds to golf. Founded by the World Golf Foundation, its major sponsors are the PGA Tour, U.S. Golf Associating, Augusta National Golf Club, PGA of America and Ladies Professional Golf Association.

Earlier this year, in a special report in Golf Course News, Leiweke said the program "continues to make excellent progress toward achieving our initial two-year goal of 100 facilities by end of the year 2000."

Stachitis reported that the First Tee has 34 projects under contract and another 47 under memorandum of understanding.

"We fully expect to make that 100," he said. "We anticipate another 30 facilities to open next summer. We're in 39 states, Montreal and Puerto Rico.