

GOLF COURSE NEWS

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INSIDE

Past presidents speak up

Former GCSAA presidents offer insights, advice on eve of International Conference and Show 39

Development abroad

GCN's monthly international report focuses on Asian and European soil 73-76



WEISKOPF THE DESIGNER

Golfer-turned-designer Tom Weiskopf points out how he wants a hole created on one of his projects. For an engaging interview with the acclaimed architect/golfer, see page 49.

COURSE MAINTENANCE

Gray leaf spot devastates grasses 21
Preserving records an historical imperative 26
Superintendent salaries on the rise 32

COURSE DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT

1998 U.S. course openings near record 3
Nebraskans have golf course raising 49
Practice facilities run the technological gamut ... 53

COURSE MANAGEMENT

Corecaddies, Marriott team for better golf 77
JCA, Palmer go back to school 77
EITs and golf scrutinized 78

SUPPLIER BUSINESS

Scotts reshuffles distribution 83
Pursell expands facilities 84
E-Z-GO exec analyzes Asian market 86

Engelke breaks bentgrass care mold

By MARK LESLIE

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. — With his sights keen on growing the cool-season bentgrass into the Deep South, Dr. Milt Engelke has broken the mold of turfgrass care and developed a regimen he feels will, once and for all, make his dream come true.

He already points to success here. Working with Old Marsh Golf Club su-

perintendent Steve Ehrbar, the Texas A&M professor said, "We feel strongly that we will be okay [with the regimen]."

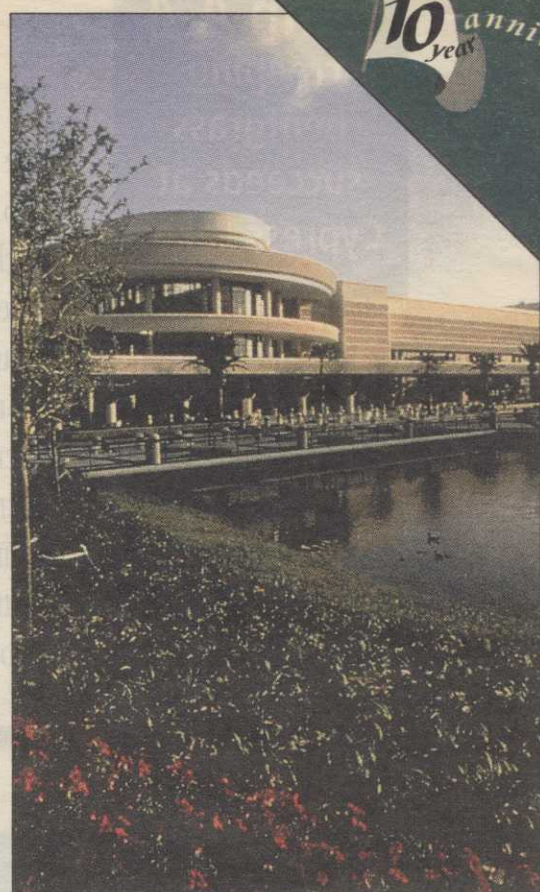
What does it entail?

- Lean water management, irrigating every fourth day.
- Frequent flushing.
- Watering, not syringing.
- Keeping the nutrition level up in the summer

Continued on page 29

ORLANDO '99: SUN, NO SOCKS, AND SEMINARS

The GCSAA International Conference and Show rolls into Orlando from February 8-14. Bring comfortable shoes, socks optional. Special preview section found on pages 39-45.



GOLF COURSE NEWS' BUILDERS OF THE YEAR



The 4th hole at Fieldstone Golf Club in Greenville, Del., built by Niebur Golf, Inc. and designed by Hurdzan/Fry Design. For more on GCN's Builder awards see pages 46-48.

BIG BUILDER



Joe Niebur

SMALL BUILDER



Tim Furness

Meditrust to sell off Cobblestone Golf Group

By PETER BLAIS

DEL MAR, Calif. — As part of a major reorganization, financially troubled

Meditrust, a Massachusetts-based real estate investment trust, plans to sell Cobblestone Golf Group of Del Mar. Cobblestone's management, headed by Chief Executive Officer Bob Husband, is among the half-dozen finalists in the bidding to acquire Cobblestone.

Meditrust, which bought Cobblestone in late 1997 for \$241 million, said the reor-

Continued on page 80

ABT: Changing the paradigm one phase at a time

By MICHAEL LEVANS

HENDERSON, Nev. — Adhering to its coolly-calculated, three-phase business plan — acquisitions, integration and transformation — AgriBioTech Inc. (ABT) has single-handedly changed the seed business over the past three years.

As 1999 shifts into gear, the company is ready to jump into its integration phase, the second step in its ultimate goal of "consolidating and transforming the turfgrass and forage seed sector in the



Continued on page 89 Dr. Johnny Thomas