

BRIEFS



GERRY WHITE STAYS ON IN MAINE

FALMOUTH, Maine — Gerry White, superintendent at Point Sebago Outdoor Resort in Casco, was re-elected in December to a second term as president of the Maine Golf Course Superintendents Association. Remaining in place for a second year are Vice President Scott Cybulski of Falmouth Country Club, Secretary/Treasurer Dick Fahey of Poland Spring (Maine) Country Club, Past President Mark Verhey of Mere Creek Golf Course in Brunswick and Directors Bob Myers of Union Country Club in Appleton and Tom Small of Abenakee Club in Biddeford Pool. Jeff Hevey of Dutch Elm Golf Course in Arundel or Gregg Grenert of Samoset Resort Golf Course in Rockport was elected to fill the third director's position.



Gerry White

NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE SLATED

The 2nd annual New England Regional Turfgrass Conference and Show (NERTCS) will be held at the Rhode Island Convention Center here, March 2-4. The conference will feature seminars for turf professionals, at which rectification credits can be earned. Sessions will focus on golf course management, lawn and landscape care, sports turf, athletic field and municipal turf management, as well as machinery and shop maintenance. More information is available from the NERTCS show office at 401-848-0004.

DPC HIRES MOOREHEAD

LONGWOOD, Fla. — George E. Moorehead has joined Diamond Players Club (DPC) as superintendent of Wekiva Golf Club here, it was announced by Todd Stottlemyre, DPC president.



George Moorehead

Diamond Players Club is a golf management company headed by Stottlemyre, a Major League pitcher with the Arizona Diamondbacks, and PGA Professional Gregg Gagliardi. Moorehead, a native of Tampa, was formerly assistant superintendent at the Quarry Course of Black Diamond Ranch Golf and Country Club in Lecanto. He has an associate degree in golf course operations from Lake City Community College.

N. Georgia Tech to graduate first turf students

By PETER BLAIS

CLARKSVILLE, Ga. — The new golf course turf management program at North Georgia Technical Institute (NGTI) will graduate its first two students this spring.

"We want to put people in the industry as quickly as possible with as much knowledge as possible," said lead instructor Joshua Jackson. "People come to a technical school to get hands-on training. We have more than \$100,000 worth of equipment and 70 acres that have been made available to us. We're looking at building a putting green and a practice facility that will be open to the public. We're also looking at building a nine-hole course."

The program arose from a needs survey that revealed a half-dozen courses within 20 miles of the school and a growing landscaping market that witnessed an expansion from two to 15 businesses over the past few years. A healthy turf market coupled with the fact the school (located an hour and 45 minutes northeast of Atlanta) already



Chateau Elan Golf Club superintendent Michael Brisbois demonstrates Stimp meter use to a group of North Georgia Tech turfgrass students

operated a 140-acre sod farm, indicated a technical school turf program might be a welcome addition to NGTI's offerings.

Jackson put together a one-year turf and golf course management certificate program requiring 17 in-class

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GOLF AND THE ENVIRONMENT



Deer wander through the 7th fairway, with natural areas above the bunkers, at Almana Colonies Golf Course in Almana, Iowa.

Resolutions for Audubon, supers, golfers

By RON DODSON

It seems that beginning a new year allows an opportunity to look to the past and the future and develop some perspective. So, here it is the first month of the last year of this century. I wonder what people were thinking about in January 1899? I'm sure most people were not, in their wildest fantasies, thinking about international jet service, the World Wide Web, or Global Positioning Systems. The first

United States golf courses were only a dozen or so years old. The "heavy equipment" they used to shape the fairways of those courses were horses.

The 1800s were steeped in the "discovery" and settlement of America. A large number of people from the East were heading west. The westward migration started by foot, horse and wagon, but by the end of the century automobiles were seen on occasion.

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Brooklake certified Club adopts school

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — Brooklake Country Club has achieved designation as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS), the educational division of Audubon International. Brooklake Country Club is the 4th in New Jersey and the 141st course in the world to receive the honor. The first three courses in New

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SOUTHPORT, N.C. — Carolina National Golf Club at Winding River Plantation, a Bluegreen Golf community, has selected Supply Elementary School to participate in Audubon International's Adopt-A-School Program. The program provides a hands-on approach to environmental appreciation, awareness and action that will turn the school into a sanctuary for

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Paul Harvey's super speaks out

By MARK LESLIE

ELMWOOD PARK, Ill. — Calling Paul Harvey "a wonderful part of the American landscape" and a person who loves the game of golf, the superintendent at the famed radio broadcaster's home course defended Harvey's past tirades against golf courses.

Alan Fierst, who Harvey has mentioned a number of times in his daily news broadcasts — including Dec. 2 when Fierst's crews were mowing grass for the first time ever in that winter month — said he does not believe Harvey thinks poorly of golf courses. Harvey has drawn the ire of the golf industry for years after making such claims as there are no birds on golf courses and superintendents are dying from mixing pesticides.

"Frankly," Fierst said, "his [anti-golf] comments have not been recently, and he has tempered them. I don't see it as a concern. He's not militant. But, by and large, I never sensed that [anti-golf sentiment] is Mr. Harvey's personal heart-felt belief."

The course manager at Oak Park Country Club here for 23 years, Fierst said Harvey's comments "cause a little bit of concern, but don't have enough meat in them to push anyone who is really interested in knowing the whole picture to cause trouble."

Harvey's writers, Fierst believes, write his news "for his constituency, who don't need a lot of wide-ranging information."

"He has a lot of control over what he reports, but has he internalized it as his own belief? No. He reports what he feels is newsworthy and of value to his constituency, at the level of intellect and depth those people choose to go to."

Saying he is not giving an alibi for

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Audubon column

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While the 1800s were primarily agricultural, the 1900s began as agricultural, grew to industrial, and now at century's end we have moved to an information- and technology-based society.

In some regard, that process has led many of us to lose contact with our historic "connection" to the land. While our grandparents and great-grandparents had to settle their own land, build and defend their own homes, and raise their own food, we purchase a dwelling from someone, drive our car to a grocery store and buy products that have been grown who knows where, and transported to us. Whereas Lewis and Clark took seemingly endless months to make their coast-to-coast journey, we complain about the four-hour plane ride we must now suffer through to make the same trek.

So, for this first month of the last year in this century, I'd like to pose some resolutions for the future, based on what we know of the past.

For Audubon International:

- We will continue to focus on improvement of quality of life and the environment through research, education, and conservation assistance.

- We will resist the temptation to become an environmental regulator in our approach to promoting environmental stewardship.

- We will expand membership and programming but remain personally "connected" to our members.

- We will base our environmental policies on sound scientific research.

For golfers:

- Remember, golf is only a game! And, it is a game that is rooted in nature.

- Support your golf course superintendent's efforts to manage the course for good playing conditions while caring for the environment.

- Become a steward of the game and the environment.

- Practice environmental stewardship where you live, work and recreate.

For superintendents:

- Remember, golf is only a game! And, it is a game that is rooted in nature.

- Join, renew and participate in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program.

- Communicate with your golfer members and players. Let them know all of the things that you do and encourage them to follow your lead where they live and work.

- Become involved in community good works, by adopting a local school and helping

to educate children.

- Sign up for and use the U.S. Golf Association's Turf Advisory Service.

- Continue to educate yourself by attending seminars and participating in worthwhile projects. Work toward your Certified Golf Course Superintendent designation.

For golf course architects:

- Remember, golf is only a game! And, it is a game that is

rooted in nature.

- Be a leader in your profession by designing courses that fit the land, fit the environment and can be reasonably maintained after construction.

- Educate landowners about the unsustainable environmental and economic results of building courses on improper sites and in improper ways.

For other environmental organizations and govern-

mental agencies.

- Remember, people are who we are talking with and about. It is people with families who have jobs to do that we often chastise while they are trying their best to keep their jobs and care for the environment. It is sometimes a delicate balance.

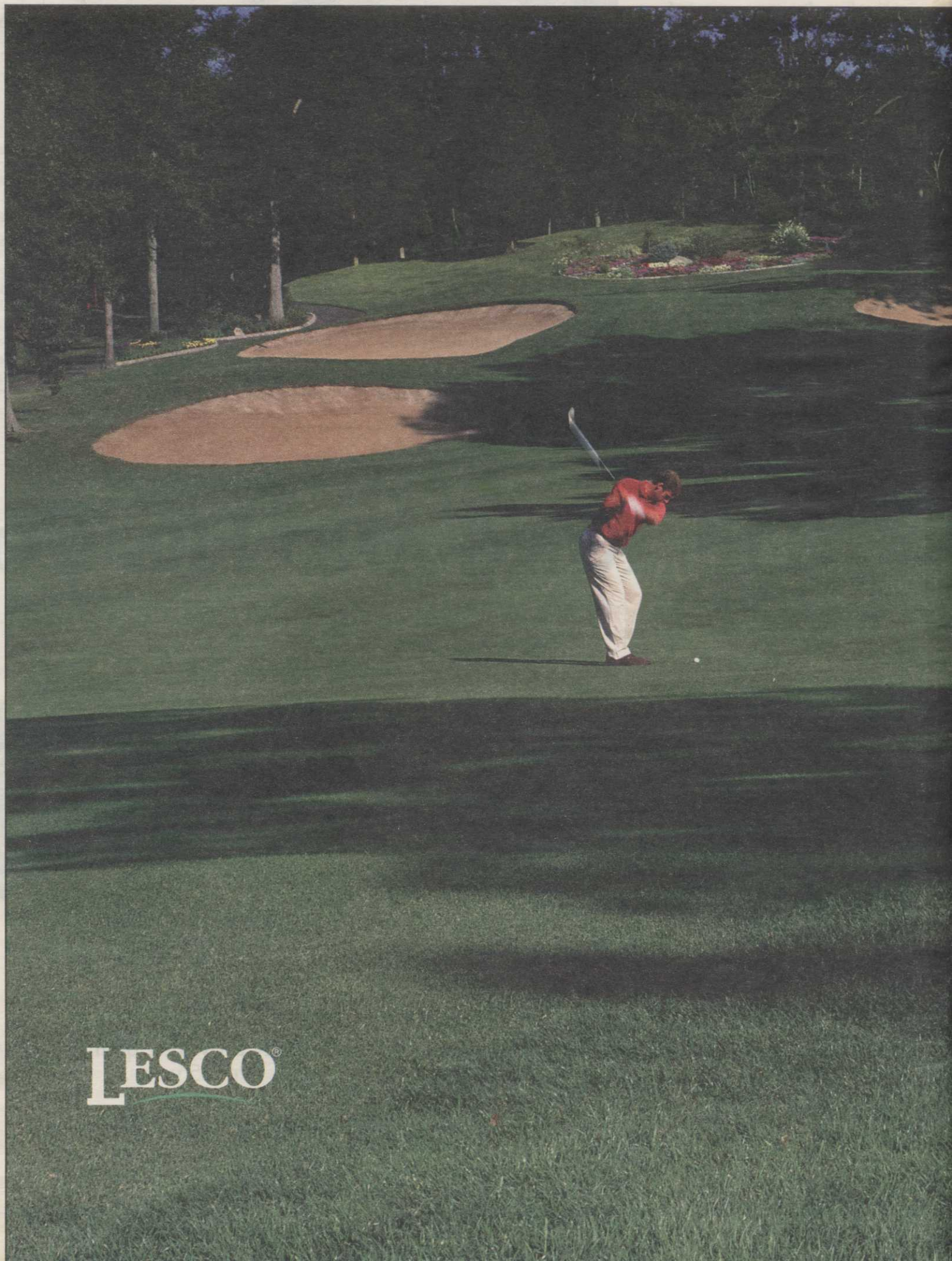
- Each person and every property is different. Provide direction and a set of principles to follow that can be adapted to each

site. That is the way ecology works.

For All Of Us:

- Develop a legacy of stewardship of our environment and fellowship of our fellow human beings so that our descendents in the next century will be proud of our efforts and example.

Wishing you the wonders of habitat and wildlife, and the pleasure and satisfaction of environmental stewardship.



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Georgians elect Dusch

WATKINSVILLE, Ga. — The 1998 Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association has elected Jim Dusch of Grey Hawk Ridge Golf Club in Alpharetta president.

Elected at the group's annual meeting, Dusch will be joined by Vice President Franz "Buck" Workman of Catechee Golf Club in Hartwell; and Immediate Past President Chuck Underwood of Northwood Country

Club in Lawrenceville.

Elected to the board of directors were Frank Siple of Lanier Golf Club in Cumming and Jimmy Geter of Marietta (Ga.) Country Club. They will join Directors Sam Crowe of Monroe (Ga.) Golf and Country Club, Harold Franklin of Fields Ferry Golf Course in Calhoun, Craig Ketelsen of Orchard Hills Golf Club in Newnan, Phillip "Wade" Thomas of Idle Hour Club in Macon, and William Smith of Columbus (Ga.) Country Club.

Carolina Nat'l links up with school

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wildlife and a place where students can learn about and practice environmental stewardship. The program is part of Carolina National's efforts to receive certification in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program (ACSP).

"In times of tight education budgets and the elimination of

special programs, it is exciting and encouraging to see what a difference linking community leaders and schools together can make," said Terry L. Vassey, director of golf course development for Bluegreen Golf. "By adopting the school, we hope to build a long-lasting relationship with the local community with projects that are designed to enhance the environment of both the school and the golf course."

Initial projects by Carolina National Golf Club and the school include installation and monitoring of songbird nest boxes, continued development of the school's wildlife trail, establishment of a nature and butterfly garden, tree planting and implementing a "best plant management" (IPM) program for the grounds management department at the school.

"We are very excited to be selected for the program and welcome Carolina National Golf Club to the school," said the Supply Elementary School principal, Dr. Carolyn Williams. "Our goal is to continue developing environmental awareness among the students and provide them with information and opportunities to contribute to their surroundings."

Brooklake certified

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Jersey were Fiddler's Elbow Country Club in Far Hills, Ridgewood Country Club in Paramus, and Somerset Hills Country Club in Bernardsville.

In 1991, Brooklake Country Club joined the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program (ACSP) for Golf Courses, which provides information and guidance to golf courses to help them preserve and enhance wildlife habitat and protect natural resources.

"Brooklake Country Club has shown a strong commitment to its environmental program," said Joellen Zeh, staff ecologist for the Cooperative Sanctuary System. "They are to be commended for their efforts to provide a sanctuary for wildlife on the golf course property. To reach certification, a course must demonstrate that they are maintaining a high degree of environmental quality in a number of areas."

The Brooklake board of directors and the course management team have always had a strong commitment to environmental issues. Golf course superintendent Scott Carpenter is convinced the ACSP and Brooklake Country Club are a perfect fit.

"The resources available regarding environmental issues are unmatched," said Carpenter.

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