

BRIEFS



ALMA MATER HONORS TONY MANCUSO

STARKVILLE, Miss. — Bellerive Country Club superintendent Anthony "Tony" Mancuso is one of eight leaders in a variety of private and public service areas who have been named Alumni Fellows of Mississippi State University (MSU). Mancuso is a certified golf course superintendent and a 1979 agronomy/turfgrass management graduate of MSU. He lives in Creve Coeur.



Anthony Mancuso

NTEP PROGRESS REPORTS ON WEB

BELTSVILLE, Md. — Progress reports containing data collected in 1998 have been mailed and are also available on the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program's web site, <http://www.ntep.org>. The hard-copy reports (booklet format) have been mailed for Kentucky bluegrass (high and low input), perennial ryegrass, tall fescue, Bermudagrass, zoysiagrass, buffalograss, St. Augustinegrass, and on-site bentgrass/Bermuda tests.



N.H. TURF EDUCATION DAY SET

CONCORD, N.H. — Featured speakers for the 1999 Turfgrass Education Day on Dec. 8 at the Holiday Inn here include Drs. Houston Couch and Joe Vargas. The day's festivities start at 8 a.m. and the cost is \$60. Four pesticide credits have been applied for New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Maine, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Vermont.



OTF SHOW DRAWING EXHIBITORS

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Already nearly 200 companies have reserved more than 400 booths for the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation's (OTF) Annual Conference & Show, Dec. 6-9, in the Greater Columbus Convention Center here. The event is sponsored by The Ohio Turfgrass Foundation, The Ohio State University, and Ohio Agricultural Research & Development. For more information, people may call 888-683-3445.



Biocentric environmentalism threat to man, PhDs tell superintendents

By JOEL JACKSON

NAPLES, Fla. — A couple of Ph.D's gave an audience of golf course superintendents and vendors a one-two punch presentation on environmental activism and mass communications at the September meeting of the Everglades GCSA meeting held at Collier's Reserve here.

Speaking first was Dr. Michael Coffman, whose book *The Savors of the Earth* details how environmental extremists are introducing regulations through executive orders and United Nations global policies without ever going through legislative processes.

Coffman believes that 97 percent of the



Dr. Michael Coffman

people who engage in well-meaning conservation efforts are decent human beings trying to find the right balance between man and nature. He also believes the career activists who head up many of



Dr. Tom Morgan

the large environmental foundations have a more sinister agenda.

And Coffman, a former forestry professor, is devoting his time and energy exposing this shadow world of environmental duplicity.

At the heart of this agenda, according to Coffman, is an almost religious zeal by the extremists, which he labels Biocentrism. This philosophy contends

Continued on page 11

Breaking the ice before it breaks you

By MARK LESLIE

LEEDS, Maine — Whether global warming is fact or fiction, recent warm winters are causing Northern superintendents to rethink and experiment with their winter maintenance regimes.

Instead of the normal frozen ground and snow cover that insulates turfgrass on greens, the last few winters have featured snowstorms followed by rainstorms. This compresses the snow and tends to freeze it, layering the greens in ice and causing various problems that can be deadly to turf.

Superintendent Rick Newbauer at Springbrook Golf Club here



ON THE GREEN

experimented with ice chippers, wooden snow scoops and snowblowers before finding the best method to rid his greens of ice cover.

"We've tried everything,"

Newbauer said. "But the last two or three years there have been 3 or 4 inches of ice that supported the weight of a tractor without harming the greens. So we've taken out the tractor with a bucket and pushed the snow right far enough away that those piles would drain off the greens."

Newbauer's crew then spreads a dark fertilizer on the ice with a rotary

Continued on page 12

At Cherry Hills with super Mike Burke

Editor's Note: This is the first of an ongoing column which will enumerate the "tools in the toolboxes" of superintendents across the country — what equipment, chemicals and other gear they use to keep their courses in shape. We will look under the roofs of the maintenance buildings of superintendents at public, private, resort and municipal facilities. Contributing Editor Terry Buchen will work with GCN on the column.



Superintendent Mike Burke at Cherry Hills Country Club in Englewood, Colo.

CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT: My golden retriever Palmer

Greens Mowers: 10 Toro GR1000 22-inch
Tee Mowers: 10 Bunton GS26s 26-inch
Fairway Mowers: 5 Toro 5200-D
Rough Mowers: 2 National triplex 84-inch; 1 Jacobsen 5111
Bunker Rakes: 2 John Deere 1200
Turf Utility Vehicles: 3 Cushman Truckster; 2 Mitsubishi
Aerifiers: 4 Greencare Coremaster 12; 3 Toro walking aerifiers

Top dressers: 2 Mettermatic III; 1 Vicon
Reel Grinder: Express Dual
Bedknife Grinder: Angle Master
Irrigation Pump Station: Toshiba H3 VFD, 3000 GPM by Danfoss, Mid-Continent Engineering Co.
Irrigation System: Toro
Golf Car Fleet: E-Z-GO (12 gas, 4 electric)
Flagstick: Southern, Par Aide
Hole Liner: Par Aide
Type of Computer: Hewlett Packard,

OLDEST PIECE OF EQUIPMENT: '68 Ford 41123C Tractor

Windows 98, map info.
Favorite Chemical: Primo, Surfside 37, ROOTS
Favorite Fungicide: Heritage
Favorite Insecticide: Merit
Favorite Herbicide: Confront
Favorite Slow-Release Fertilizer: Nitroform
Maintenance Building: 11,500 square feet
Annual Rounds of Golf: 30,000
Normal Green Speed: 10

Superintendents save time, money with GIS

Editor's note: This is the second in a two-part series on the uses of digital mapping technology in golf course management. This month we look at how GIS is being applied in daily course operations.

By KEVIN P. CORBLEY

A digital map on a computer screen — the component most often associated with geographic information systems (GIS) — is already widely used on golf courses in cart tracking devices and electronic irrigation systems. But those applications just scratch the surface of GIS, an interactive management tool that generates information from geographic data.

GroundLinkx LLC of Littleton, Colo., and its joint venture partner, IntraSearch Inc. of Denver, are the first to harness the dynamic nature of GIS and de-

Second of 2 Parts

velop a customized computer program and digital map sets for course management. Superintendents at 21 courses now use the GroundLinkx system regularly, and the U.S. Golf Association will use it to plan four upcoming tournaments.

"GIS is a geographic data-processing system that gives the superintendent the information he needs to do his job more quickly and efficiently," said David Mikesch, GroundLinkx president. "It saves money by allowing courses to allocate staff and resources more effectively."

A GIS is composed of a layered digital map or air photo whose features are linked to a database of attribute information. The user can click on any feature, such as a fairway in

Continued on page 12

Lopez the Old Tom winner

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Nancy Lopez, a 48-time winner on the LPGA Tour, has been selected to receive the Old Tom Morris Award from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA). The award presentation will take place Feb. 18 at the Golf General Session during the association's 71st In-

ternational Golf Course Conference and Show, Feb. 14-20, in New Orleans.

GCSAA's most prestigious honor, the Old Tom Morris Award, is presented each year to an individual who, "through a continuing lifetime commitment to the game of golf, has helped to mold the welfare of the game

in a manner and style exemplified by Old Tom Morris."

"When you look to those who have made a positive and lasting commitment to golf, Nancy Lopez has few peers," said GCSAA President Dave Fearis. "She truly has been a great ambassador for the LPGA and the game of golf. Her 48 career wins are impressive, but her professionalism, integrity and honor distinguish her from others."

PhDs unmask biocentrism

Continued from page 11

the rights of nature should be defended first and foremost due to nature's intrinsic value rather than on the basis of its use by man. Man is considered to be just another biological resource in the scheme of things.

Coffman asserted that the ecospiritual practices and prin-

ciples of the biocentric leadership call for radical changes in laws, attitudes, values and behavior. These same radical biocentric values can be found in Vice President Al Gore's book, *Earth in the Balance*.

Following Coffman's chilling forecast of things to come, Dr. Tom Morgan, a professor of mass communications, reviewed the changing face of mass media and news reporting in modern times.

"The news is what the media says it is!" Morgan said. "News is a business. It is a product that is gathered, handled and distributed like any other tangible product."

Morgan explained that, to attract viewers and readers, news depends on stories of catastrophe, crisis, corruption, conflict, crime, change and human interest. Good news is normal. Bad news is unusual and provocative.

Here are Morgan's tips for superintendents to provide the media with their side of an issue:

1. Form a coalition of groups with similar interests.
2. Agree to disagree. Find the big issues and unite behind them.
3. Find common ground. In the face of danger all men are brothers.
4. Designate and train spokespersons.
5. Set simple and achievable goals.

Morgan said that after organizational steps have been taken:

1. Hit the rubber chicken circuit. Get the word out. Speak to other groups.
2. Go back to school. Volunteer to make presentations in local public schools.
- Let the children hear the facts. They are the voters and leaders of tomorrow.
3. Stand up in church. If the sermon gets secular and disagrees with your thinking, speak up.
4. Write the editor. You may not get published, but your letter is usually put into the story file of the topic you were writing about, and may be considered if they try to recycle the "bad news" story again.

5. Talk back. Radio talk shows love a spirited debate. Call in and respond if you hear someone bashing golf.

6. Start conversations. When you're out socially it's perfectly OK to mention the positive things going on at your club. Tell people about the good things you're doing.

7. Keep the faith. The time to get going is now. Don't wait for someone else to move first and put you on the defensive all the time.



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The First Tee

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