

GOLF COURSE NEWS

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Best Builders of the Year



GCN'S GOLF COURSE BUILDERS OF THE YEAR

Golf Course News' annual Builder of the Year Award will be presented to Allan MacCurrach III, right, president of MacCurrach Golf Construction. The Best Small Builder of the Year Award will go to Golf Development Construction, represented by Managing Partner Louis Miller, left. The awards will be presented during the Golf Course Builders Association of America's annual banquet on Feb. 18 in New Orleans.

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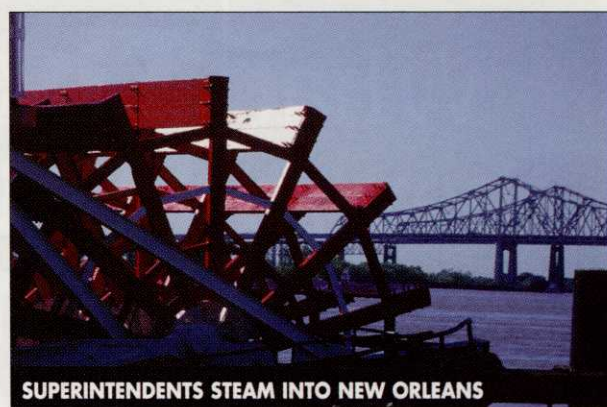
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PERIODICAL



SUPERINTENDENTS STEAM INTO NEW ORLEANS

For a preview on the 71st International Golf Course Conference & Show, Feb. 14-20, see pages 17-28.

Gene that limits plant growth discovered

By ANDREW OVERBECK

SAN DIEGO — A team of genetic scientists at the Salk Institute lead by Dr. Joanne Chory have discovered the gene that controls plant height by limiting the activity of a growth hormone. The scientists have been successful in transferring the gene to tobacco plants and experiments are underway with rice. If

Prospects are bright for no-mow turfgrass

that works, potential applications in turfgrass may not be far off.

"If it works in tobacco there is promise," said Dr. Mike Kenna, director of research for the United States Golf Association (USGA). "If

they can get it to work in corn or rice, then the chances of it working in turf go from promising to highly possible."

In the popular press, the discovery of the growth gene has garnered headlines touting the possibility of "no-mow" turf, prompting joy among homeowners who believe they will

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Century's Top Supers: Sherwood Moore, Warren Bidwell

By PETER BLAIS

Warren Bidwell and Sherwood Moore were the most influential superintendents of the 1900s, according to a *Golf Course News* survey of past Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) presidents, former Canadian Golf Superintendents Association presidents and current GCSAA chapter presidents.

Bidwell — a 64-year GCSAA member, national direc-



Sherwood Moore



Warren Bidwell

tor and Distinguished Service Award winner — received the most votes among deceased nominees.

He was followed, in order, by Colonel John Morley and Chester Mendenhall (tied for second), Joe Valentine, Leo Feser, Arthur Snyder, Harold Stodola, Bill Lyons, Marshall Farnham and Tom Johnson.

Moore — a longtime GCSAA member who served as

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New openings eclipse 500

By MARK LESLIE

JUPITER, Fla. — The golf boom of the 1990s has continued into 2000—in a record-eclipsing way. Some 509 golf courses came on line in the United States in 1999, surpassing the record 468 set in 1995, according to the National Golf Foundation (NGF).

At the same time, the pipeline continues to be full. At the end of the year, 946 courses were under construction and 908 were in planning. This compared to the end of 1998 when 1,069 were under construction and 708 were

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GOLF BOOMING INTERNATIONALLY

The Hole of the Gods — the 3rd hole at Golfplan-designed Bonari Kogen Golf Club in Numajiri, Japan — is one example of the mountains of work being done expanding golf throughout the world. See a report on international course construction, pages 61-68.

Meadowbrook becomes 3rd-largest manager

By PETER BLAIS

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — Meadowbrook Golf Group has acquired the balance of Fairways Acquisition Corp., the entity formed to facilitate last fall's 30-course acquisition of KSL Fairways from KSL Recreation Corp. Meadowbrook now owns 100 percent of Fairways Acquisition Corp.

KSL Fairways was the non-resort division of KSL Recreation, which continues to own such high-profile properties as Doral in Miami and LaQuinta and PGA West in Palm Springs, Calif.

Fairways Golf consisted of 24 golf properties primarily in Virginia, Maryland,

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