

GOLF COURSE NEWS

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INSIDE

A Super Event

Coverage of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Conference & Show 13-23

It's All in the Method

Hydroseeding now a more viable choice for golf course construction projects 35



SIR MICHAEL AND THE CHAIRMAN
Sir Michael Bonallack, right, president of the British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association, tours the BTME show floor with new BIGGA Chairman Elliott Small of Tulliallan in Scotland. For highlights of the event, see page 25.

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PERIODICAL

Andersons to buy Scotts Pro Turf

By A. OVERBECK

MAUMEE, Ohio — In a move that will likely trigger further consolidation within the fertilizer industry, The Andersons, Inc. has signed a letter of intent with The Scotts Co. to acquire Scotts' U.S. Professional Turf business.

The two companies have agreed to a long-term supply agreement under which Scotts will use its proprietary manufacturing processes to produce products for Andersons. The acquisition includes ProTurf, Contec and other brand names, the distribution network, customer lists and all trademarks

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Dinelli receives Excellence Award

By MARK LESLIE

NEW ORLEANS — Ingenuity and initiative in the Dinelli family are longstanding traits, the latest result of which is the presentation of the 2000 Scotts Tradition of Excellence Award to Dan Dinelli of North Shore Country Club in Glenview, Ill.

The Scotts Co. of Marysville, Ohio, presents the annual peer-nominated award to recognize outstanding achievements among superintendents who are "dedicated to advancing the science of course maintenance and making golf the best it can

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Superintendents, builders, owners trumpet change



New GCBAAs exec: Upgrade image

By PETER BLAIS

NEW ORLEANS — Increasing public and professional awareness of the importance of golf course builders is a primary goal of incoming Golf Course Builders Association of America (GCBAAs) Executive Vice President Lee Hetrick.

"The builders need more exposure and recognition from the architects and superintendents because of the contributions builders make," Hetrick

said. "What you see when a course opens is a collaborative effort. But I don't know if I've ever looked at a golf course scorecard and seen the name of the builder. My objective would be to have the builder



Lee Hetrick

Continued on page 16

NGCOA's Stine: Continue assn. growth

By PETER BLAIS

FT. LAUDERDALE, Fla. — In a sign of these consolidation times, William Stine, president of 100-course Meadowbrook Golf Group, was elected president of the National Golf Course Owners Association (NGCOA) during the group's annual meeting here.

"I've been on the [NGCOA] board for the past eight years and was a member before that," said Stine, who started in the business as a single-

course operator. "It's just in the past few years we've become a multi-course operator. I've evolved through the business, just as our organization has."



William Stine

Stine's father, Charlie, started

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GCSAA: Scott Woodhead takes reins

NEW ORLEANS — Scott Woodhead was elected president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America during the recent International Conference and Show held here.

Woodhead, who was appointed to the board in 1993, hails from Valley View Golf Course in Bozeman, Mont.

He replaces David Fearis of Blue Hills Country Club in Kansas City, who will continue on the board as immediate past president.

Tommy Witt of StillWaters in Dadeville, Ala., was elected vice president and Michael Wallace of Hop Meadow Country Club in Simsbury, Conn. secretary/treasurer.



Scott Woodhead

Also elected to the board of direc-

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REPLENISHING NATURE

Greg Nash-designed Anthem Golf & Country Club shows its colors in Phoenix. Builders replenished the natural vegetation in order to bring back the land to its original state. See p.8.

Woodhead, new officers take posts

Continued from page 1

ors were Ken Mangum of the Atlanta Athletic Club and Jon Maddern of Elk Ridge Golf Course in Atlantic, Mich.

Sam Snyder VIII of Hercules Country Club in Wilmington, Del., resigned his director position, effective at the conclusion of the 2000 Conference & Show,

with one year remaining in his term. Tim O'Neill of Country Club of Darien (Conn.) was appointed to serve Snyder's remaining one-year term.

Mark Woodward of Dobson Ranch Riverview Golf Club in Mesa, Ariz., will serve the second year of his two-year term in 2000-01.

One additional director will be appointed to serve the remaining one year director position created with the election of Wallace as Secretary/Treasurer.

In other GCSAA news:

- Although the final audited figures have not be determined, unofficial attendance figures for the Conference & Show include

registered education seminar attendees, 7,903 (surpasses record of 6,999 in 1999); attendees, 21,686 (record of 22,623 in 1999 Orlando [2000 marks 4th highest all-time]); exhibitors, 757 (surpasses record of 740 in 1999); exhibition space: 267,000 square feet (surpasses record of 246,500 in 1999).

How do the Conference & Show attendance totals compare to a decade ago (1990 in Ana-

heim)? That year, 17,071 attended, with 534 exhibiting companies and 170,000 square feet of floor space. Twenty-five years ago (1975 in New Orleans) 4,861 attended.

- Todd Barker, golf course superintendent at Fore Lakes Golf Course in Taylorsville, Utah defeated Paul Jett of Pinehurst No. 2 (N.C.) Resort by paring the second playoff hole of the 50th GCSAA Golf Championship in Moblie, Ala. Barker and Jett both recorded first-round scores of 73 at Kiva Dunes Golf Club and second-round totals of 76 at the Magnolia Grove Falls Course to go to the sudden death playoff with five-over-par scores of 149. It was a bit of deja vu as Barker won his first GCSAA title in 1995 at Monterey, Calif., while Jett was also the runnerup. Barker's father, Vaughan, was the 1977 GCSAA Golf Champion. The younger Barker also is the 1997 Utah state amateur titleist.

- Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Steve Mona has been selected to serve on the Golf 20/20 Conference Steering Committee executive board along with Jim Awtrey (PGA of America); Joe Beditz (National Golf Foundation); David Fay (USGA); Tim Finchem (PGA TOUR); Michael Hughes (NGCOA) and Ty Votaw (Ladies Professional Golf Association).

The conference, to be conducted Nov. 17-19 at the World Golf Hall of Fame, brings together the golf industry to address the future of golf in a strategic manner, with an emphasis on accelerating the growth over the next 20 years and creating new avenues of access into the game.

- GCSAA will have a presence at the 2000 Kmart 400 NASCAR race, June 11 at the Michigan Speedway in Brooklyn, Mich. Chad Little's No. 97 car, sponsored by John Deere, will feature the GCSAA lettermark and logo on the trunk of the Roush Racing Team vehicle.

- Representatives from the National Football League (NFL) and Major League Baseball (MLB), plus grounds directors from 43 NFL/MLB franchises met at the 2000 GCSAA Conference & Show.

Executives attending included MLB Executive Vice President of Baseball Operations Sandy Alderson, NFL Assistant Director of Game Operations Tim Davey and NFL Players' Association Regional Director Clark Gaines. Sponsored by Toro and TURFACE, the Professional Sports Turf Symposium exposed professional grounds directors to the products, services, education and research that has been em-

Continued on page 20



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Woodhead, GCSAA move ahead

Continued from page 17

ployed by the golf industry.

• Former U.S. Open champion Jerry Pate and Kohler Co., CEO Herb Kohler were elected to the positions of GCSAA Foundation Board of Trustees chair and vice-chair beginning in August.

Former USGA Executive Committee member Ray Anderson will rotate off the board, with his spot being filled by Thomas Chisholm, vice president of automotive marketing with Eaton Corp. The "Investing in the Beauty of Golf" endowment campaign has reached the \$3.7 million mark, with a goal of \$5 million (increased last year from the original \$3.5 million target).

A new GCSAA Foundation mission statement was also approved: "The GCSAA Foundation enhances the game of golf through funding applied research and advanced education in golf course management.

The remainder of the GCSAA Foundation board of trustees includes GCSAA representatives Woodhead, Witt, Wallace, Fearis and Mona as well

as course architect Tom Fazio, former PGA of America President Joe Black, Toro Co. Vice President Michael Hoffman, and PGA Tour Senior Vice President of Communications Bob Combs.

• Iowa State University claimed the title at the sixth annual Collegiate Turf Bowl Competition conducted at the Conference & Show. It was the second consecutive honor for the school.

The winning team is advised by Dr. Nick Christians, professor of agronomy and featured students Kirk Golinghorst, John Lavelle, Aaron Patton and Chad Wilson. The event was a two-hour test requiring a written Q & A, math problems, and identification of soil, seed and weed samples. Students from Michigan State and Kansas State were second and third, respectively.

• Earlier this year, GCSAA membership topped the 20,000 mark for the first time.

• The 72nd International Golf Course Conference & Show is set for February 12 - 18 in Dallas. ▶

Ultradwarfs reach new goals and offer more challenges

Continued from page 13

He said the "positives" of the ultradwarfs are numerous:

• When cut at the right height, its density is excellent.

• Its denser grass allows for a smoother surface.

• In some cases it eliminates overseeding. "But I caution you not to use that as a selling point," he warned, "because the money you save there must be used in other places, like for additional walk mowers, sand, fertility..."

• It allows 419 Bermudagrass to be grown on collars without encroachment into the greens. "That's an excellent, excellent characteristic," Kloska said.

• It mowed lower. "If you have Snowbirds who want fast greens even in the winter, this is an option," he said.

• It will maintain its color in cool weather, when soil temperatures get down into the 50s, "whereas with Tifdwarf you see discoloration in the 50s," Kloska said.

On the negative side, he listed:

• Accelerated thatch build-up. "I highly recommend that you be proactive about this," Kloska said. "Watch nitrogen levels and take care of cultural practices — aerification and top dressing.

• Much slower ballmark recovery because ultradwarfs do not grow laterally.

• Intensive maintenance.

• Very poor shade tolerance.

To grow in the ultradwarfs, Kloska suggested:

• Sprig heavily: 30 bushels per acre. "In 10 days we were verticutting and mowing," he said. "Get the height of cut down to 1/8 inch as soon as possible. We did it in eight weeks."

• Spike frequently: twice a week.

• Top dress lighter and more fre-



quently: twice a week.

• Fertilize more frequently: every three to four days instead of once a week.

• Consider buying a water injection aerifier. "It's very important," Kloska said.

• Mixed Nitriform and coated potash. "It will help you wonderfully."

Kloska's management tips included:

• Do more grooming instead of deep verticutting.

• The N-K ratio should be 1:2 or 1:3 in the summer and 1:5 in the winter.

• In the cold weather, aerify twice a week.

• Use finer fertilizers. "In some cases, the grass is so tight, fertilizer has a hard time getting in," he said. "You will do lighter and more frequent top dressing. We have gone so far as putting sand out with a rotary spreader. Even at that, we water heavily that night and hope it gets the sand down in."

• Because of the impact of the turf's density on water infiltration, a water aerifier is "extremely important."

• Aerify with smaller tines more frequently in the summer.

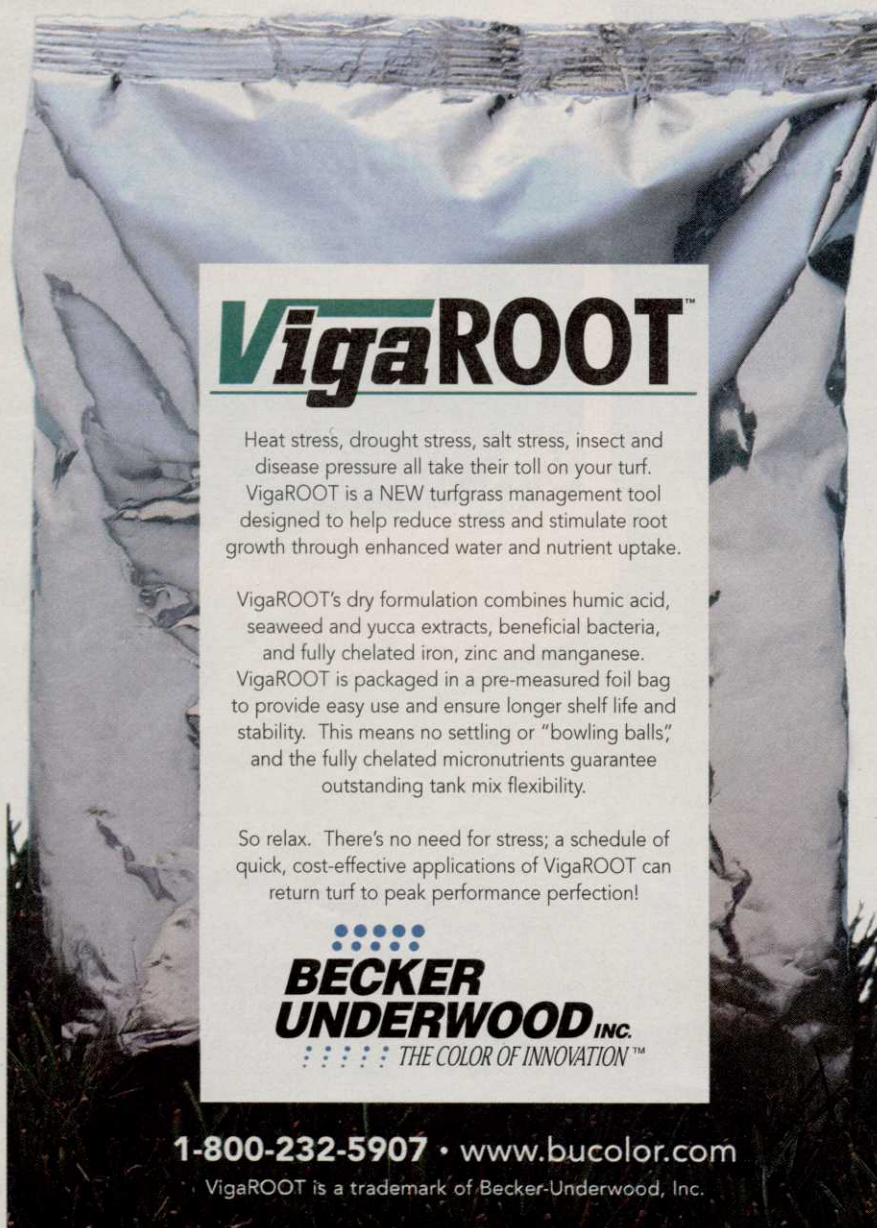
• Remember that ball marks heal more slowly.

• Monitor the surface temperatures of greens in the summer. "Remember you are top dressing every week and there is a lot of sand on top of that green. Also, you're mowing low at .150 or .130," Kloska said.

• Watch for disease, particularly during tropical weather patterns, and especially on stressed turf. The disease will show up where stress is occurring — shaded, scalped and heat-stressed areas.

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